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Multi-Tasking

UniFLEX is a true multi-tasking operating system. Not only may several users run different programs, but one user may run several programs at a time. For example, a compilation of one file could be initiated while simultaneously making changes to another file using the text editor. New tasks are generated in the system by the 'fork' operation. Tasks may be run in the background or 'locked' in main memory to assist critical response times. Inter-task communication is also supported through the 'pipe' mechanism.



Support

The design of UniFLEX, with its hierarchical file system and device independent I/O, allows the creation of a variety of complex support programs. There is currently a wide variety of software available and under development. Included in this list is a Text Processing System for word processing functions, BASIC interpreter and precompiler for general programming and educational use, native C and Pascal compilers for more advanced programming, sort/merge for business applications, and a variety of debug packages. The standard system includes a text editor, assembler, and about forty utility programs. UniFLEX for 6809 is sold with a single CPU license and one years maintenance for \$450.00. Additional yearly maintenance is available for \$100.00. OEM licenses are also available.

FLEX™

UniFLEX is offered for the advanced microprocessor systems. FLEX, the industry standard for 6800 and 6809 systems, is offered for smaller, single user systems. A full line of FLEX support software and OEM licenses are also available.



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'68'

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EDITOR - WORD PROCESSOR
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Publisher: Don Williams Sr.

Executive Editor: Larry Williams

Subscriptions and Office manager
Mary Robertson

General Girl 'Friday'
Joyce Williams

Contributing Editors:

Dr. Chuck Adams
Dr. Theo Elbert
Dr. Jeffery Brownstein
Dale Puckett
Russell Gore
Ron Anderson
John Jordan

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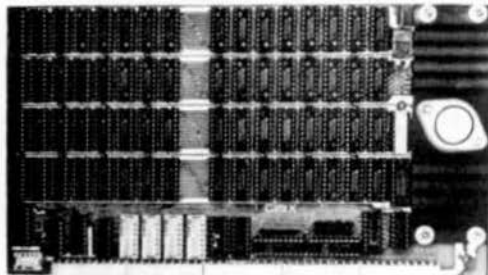
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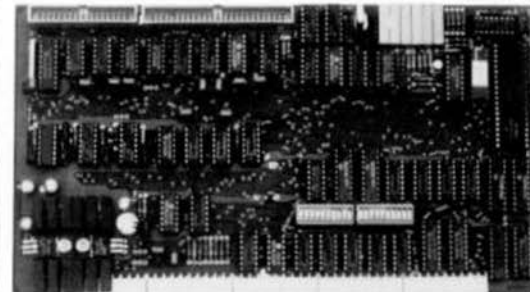
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SEE GHOST AD PAGES 43, 46, 48, & 56

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craves
meat-and-
potatoes
BASIC.**



**The
other
prefers
Programme
ala Pascal.**

Some people say BASIC09 is really a PASCAL in disguise, others say it's still BASIC. You'll understand this delightful dilemma when you look at both versions of the "bubble sort" program shown below: both can be run by BASIC09. The program on top is unstructured and hard to understand, but it's traditional BASIC. The program on the bottom is well-structured and easy to follow, a virtue of PASCAL. With BASIC09 you can program either way, or mix the best of both. It's like getting two languages for the price of one.



LOOP...ENDLOOP, FOR...NEXT and IF...THEN...ELSE. If one of the five built-in data types (byte, integer, real, string, and boolean) doesn't suit the problem, you can make a new one of your liking with the TYPE statement. Need a tree, linked list, or symbol table? Complex non-rectangular data structures using any combination of data types are easy to define. Modular programming breaks down large programs to smaller, more manageable elements. BASIC09 lets you create independent program modules called "procedures" with local variables for recursion plus parameter passing to any other BASIC09 or machine language procedure. There is a complete set of statements for device-independent sequential or random I/O, plus a superlative PRINT USING system.

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not fast enough, there's BYTE and INTEGER arithmetic.

Features that make programs easier to write

The compiler is integrated with a full-feature string AND line-number oriented text editor. If you make a mistake, BASIC09 tells you instantly. String-oriented commands such as search, change, change all occurrences, delete, and insert can be used on programs with or without line numbers. There's an automatic line renumbering function too.

Features that make programs easy to test

Debugging often takes longer than writing a program. That's why BASIC09's integral high-level debugger sets it apart from all other compiled OR interpretive languages. The TRACE command shows you each statement executed in BASIC form, plus the result of any expression evaluation. STEP lets you run one or more statements at a time. LET and PRINT allow you to examine or change the values of variables, by name. STATE lists procedure calling order. And there are nine other debug commands. If you need to correct a program, you can edit, recompile, and rerun it in seconds.

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SORT AN ARRAY IN ASCENDING SEQUENCE

```

90 DIM A(5)
100 I=5
110 IF I=1 THEN 200
120 FOR J=1 TO I-1
130 IF A(J)<A(J+1) THEN 170
140 T=A(J+1)
150 A(J)=A(J+1)
160 A(J+1)=T
170 NEXT J
180 I=I-1
190 GOTO 110
200 RETURN
    
```

```

DIM array(5)
outer=5
WHILE outer>1 DO
  outer=outer-1
  FOR inner=1 TO outer
    IF array(inner)>array(inner+1) THEN
      temp=array(inner+1)
      array(inner+1)=array(inner)
      array(inner)=temp
    ENDIF
  NEXT inner
ENDWHILE
RETURN
    
```

Makes programs better

BASIC09 has five kinds of loop structures: WHILE...DO, REPEAT...UNTIL,



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The convenience of an advanced operating system

Sophistication does not require complexity. Many OS-9 users say that it is actually easier to use than the older 6800-type operating systems. Consider how easy it is to run multiple programs: to run a program you just type its name and hit 'return.' To run a program as a separate job, you type its name, an '&' character, then hit return. The program runs as usual, but OS-9 comes back immediately and is ready for your next command. Simple commands let you see each program's status, set its priority, or abort it.

The file management system has fast, byte-addressable random and sequential-access files. The tree-structured multiple directory system lets you create separate disk directories for each user, project, or

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Efficiency and hardware versatility

No other operating system can run on such a broad range of hardware: the overall RAM requirement for Level One is 32K to 56K RAM. Memory utilization is superlative because OS-9 lets multiple tasks "share" the same reentrant program. For example, if two users run BASIC09, only one "copy" is actually loaded into memory. The Level Two version of OS-9 can utilize up to a megabyte of memory on systems having memory management hardware (both versions come with complete timesharing support).

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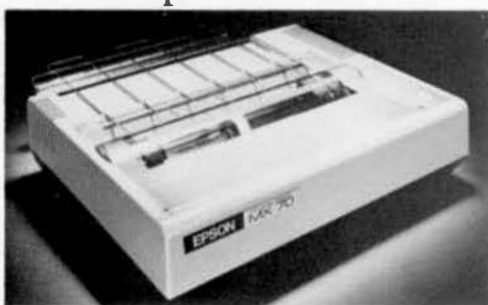
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Print method	Serial impact dot matrix	Switches/Lights/Indicators	Printer Light
Print Rate	60 CPI	Substation	Printer On/Off Line Feed
Print Direction	Unidirectional	Number of Pins in Head	
Matrix	567 in text mode		
Line Spacing	12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100	RELIABILITY	
Throughput at 60 CPI	40 LPM, 20 character line; 80 LPM, 40 character line; 120 LPM, 60 character line	Print Head Life	50 to 100 x 10 ⁶ characters
		Expectancy	3 million lines
		Print Head	3 million lines
		PRINTING CHARACTERISTICS	
		Character Set	Full 80-character ASCII
		Printing Modes	Standard, Double, and Bold
		Bit Plot Graphics	80 dots per inch (80 dots per inch resolution. May be mixed with text on same line)
		PRINTING SIZES	
		Character	5
		Max. Character	80
		Normal	5
		Expanded	80
		FORMS HANDLING	
		Line Feed	Programmable length 1 to 60 lines
		Form Feed	Programmable length 1 to 60 lines
		MEDIA HANDLING	
		Paper Feed	Adjustable tractor-type pin feed
		Paper Width Range	4" to 8"
		Number of Parts	1 (optional plus 2 copies)
		Paper Path	None
		INTERFACES	
		Standard	Centronics-style 9-pin Parallel
		Optional	RS232C, RS422A
		Buffer Size	1 line
		POWER REQUIREMENT	
		Voltage	115V, 60Hz
		Current	1 amp
		Power Consumption	80 W maximum
		SELF TEST MODE	
		Depressing Line Feed Switch while turning power ON or power self test which prints all characters in ROM	
		PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS	
		Height	4 1/2"
		Width	14"
		Depth	12 1/2"
		Weight	12 lbs.

Print method	Serial impact dot matrix	Switches/Lights/Indicators	Printer Light
Print Rate	60 CPI	Substation	Printer On/Off Line Feed
Print Direction	Unidirectional	Number of Pins in Head	
Matrix	567 in text mode		
Line Spacing	12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100	RELIABILITY	
Throughput at 60 CPI	40 LPM, 20 character line; 80 LPM, 40 character line; 120 LPM, 60 character line	Print Head Life	50 to 100 x 10 ⁶ characters
		Expectancy	3 million lines
		Print Head	3 million lines
		PRINTING CHARACTERISTICS	
		Character Set	Full 80-character ASCII
		Printing Modes	Standard, Double, and Bold
		Bit Plot Graphics	80 dots per inch (80 dots per inch resolution. May be mixed with text on same line)
		PRINTING SIZES	
		Character	5
		Max. Character	80
		Normal	5
		Expanded	80
		FORMS HANDLING	
		Line Feed	Programmable length 1 to 60 lines
		Form Feed	Programmable length 1 to 60 lines
		MEDIA HANDLING	
		Paper Feed	Adjustable tractor-type pin feed
		Paper Width Range	4" to 8"
		Number of Parts	1 (optional plus 2 copies)
		Paper Path	None
		INTERFACES	
		Standard	Centronics-style 9-pin Parallel
		Optional	RS232C, RS422A
		Buffer Size	1 line
		POWER REQUIREMENT	
		Voltage	115V, 60Hz
		Current	1 amp
		Power Consumption	80 W maximum
		SELF TEST MODE	
		Depressing Line Feed Switch while turning power ON or power self test which prints all characters in ROM	
		PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS	
		Height	4 1/2"
		Width	14"
		Depth	12 1/2"
		Weight	12 lbs.

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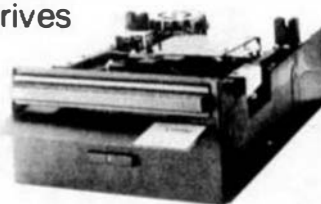
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It has lately come to our attention that one of our past advertisers is experiencing some difficulty in honoring orders submitted by our readers and others. It is the policy of 68 Micro Journal to alert our readers to any possible problems, of a serious nature, that may arise with any of our advertisers. In view of the above the following is published for your attention:

Numerous complaints have been received, by 68 Micro Journal, in the past month or so, concerning the following past advertiser:

Southwest Microsystems
6803 Kings Point Lane
Austin, Texas
78723

Should this situation be resolved, to the satisfaction of the complaining readers, and we are properly notified, we will inform our readers, by a like notice in 68 Micro Journal. Until such time it is recommended that any reader dealing with the above named company understand the contents of the above.

Don Williams Sr., Publisher

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Flex User Notes

BY: RONALD W. ANDERSON
3540 STRUBBRIDGE COURT
ANN ARBOR, MI 48105

ON TESTING PROGRAMS

I've been evaluating a lot of software recently, and a section of a book I have keeps coming to mind. I have received permission from Winthrop Publishers to quote it for you. It deals with the various levels of testing of a program. Some of us don't know how to test our programs. Some don't care to test them. If, however, you are going to sell a program and you don't want to invite disaster, you had better spend some time testing your efforts. The following notice is required by Winthrop:

From A PRIMER ON PASCAL, first edition by Richard Conway, David Gries, and E. Carl Zimmerman. Copyright (c) 1976. WINTHROP COMPUTER SYSTEMS SERIES. Reprinted by permission of Winthrop Publishers, Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts.

THE MEANING OF CORRECTNESS

"Program correctness" is not easily defined. The programmer and user of a program may discover they use quite different meanings of the word "correctness", and hence have quite different expectations of program performance. Consider the following possible interpretations of correctness — listed in order of increasing difficulty of achievement:

1. The program contains no syntax errors that can be detected during translation by the language processor.

2. The program contains no errors, either of syntax invalid operation, that can be automatically detected during translation or execution of the program.

3. There exists some set of test data for which the program will yield the correct answer.

4. For a typical (reasonable or random) set of test data the program will yield the correct answer.

5. For deliberately difficult sets of test data the program will yield the correct answers.

6. For all possible sets of data which are valid with respect to the problem specification, the program yields the correct answers.

7. For all possible sets of valid test data, and for likely conditions of erroneous input, the program gives correct (or at least reasonable) answer.

8. For all possible input, the program gives correct reasonable answers.

In the early stages of your programming experience you will feel harassed by error messages during translation, and feel a sense of achievement when you have attained level 1 correctness. However the absence of error messages is only a necessary and not a sufficient condition for reasonable correctness. You will eventually regard the detection of such errors as a helpful service, which unfortunately detects only the easiest of errors.

Some students never mature beyond level 3 of an interpretation of correctness. We are regularly involved in arguments challenging the grade assigned a problem on grounds that it "worked" on the student's own data, hence must be correct. In effect, the student is arguing that level 3 is adequate. Considering high levels (say 4, 5 or 6) it is clear that satisfactory performance on any single set of test data is not a sufficient grounds for an assertion of correctness, but failure on a single test is sufficient to demonstrate that the program is not correct. NO MATTER HOW MANY TESTS THE PROGRAM MAY HAVE PASSED SUCCESSFULLY JUST ONE TEST ON WHICH IT FAILS IS ENOUGH TO SHOW THAT IT IS NOT CORRECT. This is not inherently a democratic process, and a program that works "most of the time" is a dangerous tool.

From the "customer's" point of view a reasonable definition of correctness is certainly not less than level 6, while the customer will maintain that certain implied requirements do not have to be explicitly stated. In effect, this corresponds to the "implied warranty of merchantability" that accompanies a manufactured product. A consumer is entitled to assume that a product is "suitable for the purpose for which it is intended". A car buyer, for example, can rightfully assume that all the wheels will remain firmly attached to the car, without having to obtain a written guarantee from the dealer. In the same way, much assumed about a computer program, without its having been explicitly detailed in the problem requirement. The user of a program is entitled to consider it incorrect if it fails to satisfy implicit as well as explicit requirements.

Unfortunately, this often leads to heated discussions between programmer and user, the object being to assign blame for a program belatedly found to be incorrect. The programmer takes the position that there is no such thing as implicit requirements; the user maintains that, in retrospect, anything neglected to specify is covered by implicit commonsense requirements. Both parties should realize that implicit requirements are an inherent part of most problem descriptions, and that it is a mutual responsibility to explore this subject to ensure

mutual understanding of context of use, nature of errors, appropriate reactions and communications.

The PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY RESTS WITH THE PROGRAMMER. A program is INCORRECT IF IT DOES NOT SERVE THE USER'S PURPOSES. This may occur because the programmer failed to elicit an adequate description, because he failed to recognize implicit requirements, or because he made mistakes in designing or translating the algorithm into a programming language. Most programmers admit responsibility for only the last two sources of error, but the distinction between different types of failure is not interesting to a user with an unsolved problem.

In summary, the situation is the following. The user would like to have level 8 correctness — but this is usually impossible, and he might as well get used to that fact. Level 7 is a reasonable compromise, which is obviously going to lead to arguments since it leaves critical questions open to varying interpretations. The programmer's dilemma is that level 5 is the highest that can be achieved by purely empirical means — by running the program on test cases — so he must thoughtfully design test cases while writing the program that will permit a plausible assertion that level 6 has been achieved. To achieve level 7 the programmer must know enough about the intended use of the program to estimate what errors are likely to be encountered, and what response is appropriate."

End of quote. Quite a challenge to all of us who call ourselves programmers in any sense of the word. I recently received some Business software for review. I discovered that by answering the prompt "FILENAME" with the name of an existing file, without warning the existing file was deleted and replaced with the new file. In my opinion, that indicates failure of the program at level 4. I think Business users have a right to expect more than this. There is some very good software available, but a small business owner/user who with some misgivings has bought a Microcomputer system and has purchased software that has been debugged to level 4, will soon give up and tell all his friends that small computers are no good for small business applications.

Along this line I can report some very encouraging news. In addition to the software mentioned above, I've purchased software from another supplier, and had a couple of things sent me for "preview" from a third supplier. I can truthfully say that I have not been easy on those suppliers in terms of my reaction to bugs that I have found. I must say that their response has in all three cases been very favorable. I'm sure that I've irritated some of the suppliers with my negative reactions, but all have indicated that my complaints were for the most part valid, and ALL HAVE MADE CORRECTIONS AND SUPPLIED ME WITH UPDATED SOFTWARE. Further, I must say that the responses have been very timely. One of the authors of a particular Program called to tell me about the fixes, mention some improvements that are coming, and to say that surely others have found some of these problems, but that no one had reported them. I was thanked for responding and helping to get the software debugged.

Software is getting more sophisticated these days. The authors/suppliers point out that in general they have little way to imagine the uses to which their products will eventually be put. They have, in my experience been unanimous in wanting to have the best product possible. They just need to know when a bug is found, or a feature is needed.

I do, however think that more thorough testing of products before they are offered to the public, would result in more favorable initial reaction to the products. This therefore is a plea for more thought in testing of your products before their release. I earn a living working for a company with a product. I know that

companies starve or go broke if they don't ship their wares regularly. I also know that companies go broke when warranty expenses exceed profits, or their reputation is wrecked by customer dissatisfaction. It is inevitable that customers will be the final testers of software, and none of us minds an occasional obscure problem with new software, if the supplier is responsive. What constitutes good software, is a subjective sort of thing with regard to features and operator interface. Whether the software is debugged or not, is a rather more objective thing. Consumers don't want to be the ones to find gross problems in new software.

All of us who program for a living or a supplement to our living need to take this to heart and try to produce software that reaches level 6 plus. If I've intrigued any of you with the contents of A PRIMER ON PASCAL, a new edition is now available. Write Winthrop Publishers, Inc. 17 Dunster St., Cambridge, MA 02138 for further information on price and availability. The whole book is written in this manner. It is much more than just another book on using another programming language. It is in fact, a companion book to a volume by the same authors called "A Primer on Structured Programming — Using PL/I, PL/C, and PL/CT". It contains a great deal of information on programming by "stepwise refinement", an approach whose principles are language independent.

NEW THINGS

I recently received a notice from TSC that their Sort Merge package is now available for UNIFLEX.

CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES

Because of this column, I run across interesting people and stories. This one is intimately related to computing, so here goes. In February, I received a letter from Dennis Herk who is a "resident" of California State Prison at San Luis Obispo. Dennis sent a most helpful letter regarding using active terminations to cure SS-50 Bus intermittents. I answered his letter, and the next one from him brought a reprint of an article in the Prison Newspaper, and what I would call a product brochure. I've asked permission to write this up, and received it from Dennis and his Supervisor.

CCI employs about 400 of the 2400 inmates at the facility. There are various plants such as a Knitting Mill, Laundry, Shoe Factory, Textile Plant, and Printing Plant. Dennis is employed in Maintenance, and has been involved in the design and construction of some controllers for the various machines in CCI. The brochure describes a Dryer Control that measures moisture content of the contents of the Laundry Dryer, and shuts it off at the correct point to conserve energy and maximize "production". It also describes a Washer Polling Control that conserves energy and reduces water pressure fluctuation by allowing only one washer to fill at a time. This arrangement also reduces and evens out the load on the water heater. The brochure goes on to say that the control has shown an average 6% saving in energy required for water heating. It concludes with "These control units plus other electronic/electromechanical devices designed by California Correctional Industries, are offered for sale to public agencies. Our design team is open to the challenge of developing similar automatic controls and other devices to meet your specific requirements."

Dennis has a 6800 system running and is "teaching the managers basic operation during lunch." He finds it difficult to convince people there that Microcomputers can achieve the throughput of a "mini" (just as the rest of us do). I'd like to close this little section with a quote from Dennis and a comment. Dennis

says "I'm not...ashamed of making a mistake. Now if I let greed guide me again into one of these cesspools, then shame would be apropos." Dennis, with an attitude like that, you won't have to worry about seeing the inside of one of those places again!

MORE ON PRIMES PROGRAM OPTIMIZATION

Last column I wrote about the virtues of thinking a little about optimizing the Algorithm for Improving speed of execution of a program. My example was the Prime program, and I reported a time of 1 minute and 12 seconds for the primes to 10000 with Omegasoft Pascal. The other night I was looking at the program and decided that I had lots of multiples to compare the squares of my test numbers to the number being tested, in order to terminate my testing at the optimum point. Since I have an array of the first primes found, I decided to generate a second array of their squares. That way, the multiplication would only have to be done once for each of the primes found that are less than the square root of the maximum number. I wondered if the additional array access would take more time than the multiplications. I found out something very interesting. The added array has a dimension of 50 which means that it only takes 100 bytes of RAM at runtime, so that is not much of a disadvantage. The run time for Primes to 1000 was virtually the same as the original program. However, as the numbers being tested got larger and larger, more multiplications are eliminated, and the array access time begins to be significantly less than the time spent previously multiplying. The result is that for primes to 10000, the execution time is reduced to 1 minute and 6 seconds, about 8.3% improvement over the old program. I had tried similar optimizations before, but hadn't tested them on the larger limit. For your amusement, I have included the listing for the program in Pascal here, (The "most optimum" version).

Perhaps someone out there will find another factor of 2 or 3 in time reduction by seeing the obvious that I am missing. While I am at it, I would like to mention another example of optimization. The application is rather complex, but essentially, it is a program that takes all possible combinations of several variables and finds the "best set" by some criteria that are dictated by the problem. In this case, the problem was a mechanical part with 8 possible locations for balance weights, and each location could have no weight or one of 6 fixed sizes of balancing weights. The idea is to find the smallest set of weight values and positions that will adequately correct any unbalance amount and position within some maximum limit. I had written a program some time ago for a different though similar application, and managed to get it to run in about 2 hours. A more complicated problem came along, and following my method for it resulted in a program that ran about 50 hours. A friend took the problem home for a week-end of sitting in front of the computer, and came up with another approach. His program runs in about 20 minutes and produces a very good set of solutions to the problem. Sometimes a fresh approach can result in drastic savings in computer time.

There was a net gain here, since the program didn't take my friend Mike Myers anywhere near 50 hours to write and debug. Further, the approach is a valid one for future problems of a similar nature. Mike found several interesting approaches to reducing run time. First he scaled all the data so he could use integer variables in his BASIC. Secondly, he started with the worst case in terms of using excessive numbers and sizes of weights to make corrections. If any solution was found later in the program that "covered" the same unbalance area as an older one, it had to use less weights and therefore be a better solution. Mike therefore cleverly eliminated a lot of comparisons to see if a new value was "better" than an older one. Mike also used several large arrays to hold all the values

necessary for the calculation, therefore eliminating the necessity for repeatedly calculating, for example, the Sine of 57 degrees, etc. Overall, the solution was a very good one. This is particularly impressive to me since Mike is not an engineer. His job is in Sales. He has had a computer of his own for a couple of years now, and started like most of us at ground zero at that time. Anyone out there have some further concrete examples of such things?

FLASH: April '68' just arrived. In it, Dave Shirk of TSC made some comments about the Moreira article in Feb. '68'. Included is an algorithm for finding the primes by Wirth. Dave reports the time to write the numbers to their terminal at about 10 seconds. They must be running 9600 baud. I checked my write time and arrived at 5 seconds at 19,200 baud. Since a copy of Lucidata's Pascal release 3.9 arrived today also, I dumped in the Wirth algorithm program and ran it in Lucidata and Omegasoft Pascals WITHOUT ANY CHANGES OF ANY KIND!! Adjusting Dave Shirk's time to my 19K baud (so we can compare apples and apples), apparently TSC Pascal will run the program in under 11 seconds. Omegasoft did it in 34 seconds (About twice as fast as my most recent effort reported above), and Lucidata took 125 seconds. Lucidata, incidentally, ran my latest version in 156 seconds. Next month, I will report on the new features of Lucidata Pascal, and perhaps try to explain the Wirth algorithm for the Primes, and why it is again more efficient. Dave's listing does contain one non-fatal error, the correction of which makes the program even more impressive. Down near the end of the listing there is a statement 'IF I <= NL THEN PII:=X;' Therefore, no assignments are made to the P array beyond the subscript equal to NL. The VAR declaration should therefore be P,V : ARRAY[1..NL] OF INTEGER; This reduces the arrays to dimension 35 rather than 1229. This doesn't change the execution time, but the RAM required for the data stack is much less. Just incidentally, some authorities include 1 as a prime number and others do not. You will find that my program listed here includes 1 and finds 1230 primes between 1 and 10000.

As soon as I can check out TSC Pascal, I will be reporting on it too. Apparently it is very fast. I'd like to pose a question to Dave Shirk regarding his comments on maximum use of the 6809 features. Dave, I can see that having BASIC in position independent code might be a big advantage with Uniflex in a multi-user situation in which each user is allotted his "chunk" of memory, but what advantage is it to the large number of users that have FLEX9 single user systems, and are not even aware of how (nor have they need) to load it anywhere else in memory? I fully agree that speed isn't the only important parameter in evaluating software, and TSC is to be commended for planning ahead and making BASIC compatible with the multi-user system by taking advantage of the position independent code possible with the '09', but it is a feature that many of the users will not be taking advantage of.

PROGRAM PRIME (INPUT,OUTPUT) ; (FIND PRIMES TO MAXNUMBER)

VAR

```
NUMBER      : INTEGER ; ( CANDIDATE FOR PRIMALITY TEST )
MAXNUMBER   : INTEGER ; ( UPPER LIMIT OF PRIMES TO BE FOUND )
ITEM        : INTEGER ; ( COUNTER FOR PRIMES FOUND )
K,L         : INTEGER ; ( LOOP INDICES )
COLUMN      : INTEGER ; ( FOR OUTPUT FORMATTING )
PRIM        : ARRAY [1..50] OF INTEGER ; ( SAVE PRIMES TO SORT(MAXNUM) )
PRIMSQR     : ARRAY [1..50] OF INTEGER ; ( PRIMES SQAURED )
SWITCH      : BOOLEAN ; ( SWITCH FOR SAVING OF PRIMES )
ISPRIME     : BOOLEAN ; ( SIGNAL THAT PRIME WAS FOUND )
```

BEGIN

```
PRIM [1]:=1; PRIM [2]:=2; PRIM [3]:=3;
PRIMSQR [1] := 1; PRIMSQR [2] := 4; PRIMSQR [3] := 9;
```

```

WRITELN ('INPUT UPPER LIMIT OF PRIMES');
READ (MAXNUMBER);

WRITE (PRIM [1] : 7, PRIM [2] : 7, PRIM [3] : 7);

{ INITIALIZE VARIABLES AND POINTERS }

ITEM:=3; COLUMN := 3; NUMBER:=5; L:=4; SWITCH:=TRUE;

WHILE NUMBER <= MAXNUMBER DO
BEGIN
  ISPRIME:= TRUE; K:=3; { ASSUME NUMBER IS PRIME UNTIL PROVEN NOT }

  WHILE (PRIMSQR [K] <= NUMBER) AND ISPRIME DO
  BEGIN
    IF NUMBER MOD PRIM [K] = 0 THEN ISPRIME:= FALSE;
    K:=K+1;
  END; { WHILE PRIMSQR }

  IF ISPRIME THEN
  BEGIN
    WRITE (NUMBER : 7);
    ITEM:= ITEM+1;
    COLUMN := COLUMN + 1;
    IF COLUMN = 10 THEN
    BEGIN
      WRITELN;
      COLUMN := 0;
    END;
    IF SWITCH THEN
    BEGIN
      PRIM [L]:= NUMBER;
      PRIMSQR [L] := NUMBER * NUMBER;
      IF PRIMSQR [L] > MAXNUMBER THEN SWITCH:= FALSE;
      L:= L+1;
    END; { IF SWITCH }
  END; { IF ISPRIME }
  NUMBER:= NUMBER+2;
END; { WHILE NUMBER }
WRITELN;
WRITELN ('THERE ARE ', ITEM, ' PRIMES BETWEEN 1 AND ', MAXNUMBER);
END. (PRIME)

```

febe

While attending the 'Philly '80' show last summer, I was impressed with a Standard \$50 Bus main frame kit being shown. Later we received, for review, a kit including the Cherry Pro keyboard. This is a report of the febe group, Inc. - ECB-50 kit.

The kit came with the following units. Case - A two piece injection molded styrene case with provisions for a cooling fan. The case is furnished unpainted for custom finishing (we painted ours white for about \$2.50 in spray paint). Keyboard and portal cutouts are provided. Rubber feet and a smoked plexiglass front panel is standard.

Power Supply - 15 amp @ 9 volts and 2.5 amp @ +/- 17 volt. We find this was adequate for fully populating the motherboard and also a pair of 5 1/4 inch disks. All voltages appear at a barrier strip.

Motherboard - Tinned double sided PC card with plated through holes. Sockets provided for all IC's. All address and data lines are terminated. User selectable port size (4,8,16, etc). Base address of ports addressable \$8000 to febe+ hex (you name it). Seven 50 pin slots and eight 30 pin I/O slots.

Keyboard - Cherry Pro with 67 keys. 128 ASCII codes, 5 volt only supply. Five user definable keys and four mode operation. Repeat option available.

When we received ours the shipping policy was that febe shipped the manual about a week before the mainframe kit. This allows time for leisure study and planning for the construction period. Over the years I have talked to many, many builders who stated that they wished that they had read the 'book' more and not been in such a 'darned fired hurry'! In our case we know it helped as the builder had never attempted to build ANY kit, and to top it off, he knew nothing about computers (then).

We wanted to see if it were actually documented sufficiently to allow a novice an even break in getting things right. It did and he did, fired up first time and no problems. The manual is very complete and there was only one major (or minor depending on skill level) problem in the documentation. An readily apparent difference between the power supply component placement drawing and the parts layout diagrams. A quick reference to the main diagrams resolved this difference. Otherwise, everything went together, and WORKED as indicated in the manuals. A revised (and accurate) drawing was received 2 days after the mistake was discovered. It is fair to note that the serial number of our kit was number 15. We have seen some kits that have been produced for years (and the serial number up in the thousands), yet they still have some serious mistakes in the manuals that can do a real thumping on you if you are not watching, and completely ruin your day (and project).



DOCUMENTATION

The manual consists of not only written instructions, but also full 'blue print' type technical drawings (circuit), logic and layout. Also included was an 8X11 slick photo of the system from two angles; parts placement and a look at how it is supposed to look when completed. The step-by-step instructions were in the proper order and no parts were missing.

An especially helpful section was the one headed 'SPECIAL NOTES'. This portion of the manual listed not only things to beware of in the construction and testing of the completed computer system, but also has some important tips on what to look for when populating the system with logic boards. Tips include: Port size selection, port address decoding, power supply loading, interfacing various cards and boards, 6809 slow peripherals and mention of an EPROM BASIC for this system and others. Also if 'all else fails' a telephone number is provided to allow the stumped builder immediate advice and technical help from the source. This is one of only a few who encourage telephone calls for assistance. Complete backup repair service is available if needed from febe.

The entire system is guaranteed for a period of 90 days from date of receipt.

THE FEBE GROUP

febe has organized a users group of technicians (factory and user) alike, engineers and others to assist kit builders and to pass along hints and kinks, to make life a little easier. This group meets regularly and promises to extend the help that some will need.

CONCLUSION

The quality of the materials and components furnished is commercial grade. The cabinet is both sturdy and attractive. The power supply is adequate and has more reserve than many more expensive systems. The documentation is complete and accurate. And we can truthfully say 'that a rank novice can put it together'.

Now that we have it running, we have some special plans for this system. It will be our CBB (community bulletin board) system. It will be connected to the land line by a THOMAS INSTRUMENTATION MODEM BOARD. A review on this at a later date, however, mention is made here that we have received many good remarks concerning this modem. The CPU will be a 68B00, 2 mhz, running FLEX 2.0. We have all the hardware on hand. Currently we are attempting to get the necessary software to complete the hook up. This system, when functional, will allow 68 Micro Journal readers an access and message (program) swapping vehicle. We will keep you informed as we progress on this project.

Additional information can be secured from:

febe group, Inc.
51 Hamilton Avenue
York, PA 17404
Phone 717 854-0481

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EZDATA

John P. Tucker
POB 2898
Laredo, TX 78041

The user of the SS-50 bus is faced with probably the fewest in number of hardware problems of all the micro bus systems. He is also blessed with a wide variety of peripherals for his system. But he suffers from a dearth of good, usable business software.

Gary Magnusen of Lafayette, Indiana, has released a series of programs for data manipulation that close a big gap in the software line. Called EZDATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, the programs are aptly named. Making use of many of the capabilities of today's intelligent terminals, he has devised ways of creating files, sorting and manipulating them according to a wide variety of keys, and outputting them in formatted manner to either screen or printer.

Excellentlly conceived documentation accompanies the disk(s) to assist a programmer in configuring the programs to his own system. It is not necessary to tamper with the program proper as all configuration is done through a menu system. The programs arrived configured for Gary's Micro-Term Mime-1 terminal. Despite my unfamiliarity with my own brand new SWTPCo 8212, it took me about ten minutes to make the necessary changes to have the programs up and running.

And run, they do! Running under Flex 2.0, every step I tried worked without flaw. EZCTL creates and updates an EZDATA CONTROL file that acts as a job control system. This allows just a few key strokes to set up the most complex sort program, for instance, and execute it without operator intervention. EZDATA creates an EZDATA file, the basic file used throughout for input. EZTEXT creates a text file from an EZDATA file with essentially no effort on the users part. EZVIEW makes it possible to read what has been created. The files are not put on disk in a manner that the Flex LIST utility can be used to read them but the EZVIEW system puts them on the screen just as you wish to see them.

Recognizing that no one ever really creates a "polished" file from scratch, EZEDIT is included to allow you to get in and do your thing on your files.

Perhaps my favorite of all the programs was EZSORT. Almost limitless ways of sorting are allowed because of the wide variety of keys that can be used. Several keys can be used at once — one can sort by, say, Zip code, last name, and membership status if working with such a file. The program is intelligent: if sorting by last-name + first name + middle initial, the program can recognize that not all persons have middle initials. It runs right along without bombing in such circumstances. EZSORT performs a key sort using the keys that were established in EZCTL (EZCONTROL).

EZPRNT will output to your printer or display on the terminal the results of your work. You may utilize the "Reduced Intensity" feature on your terminal in the display of protected fields and otherwise use every feature of your system throughout the group of programs, AS I UNDERSTAND THEM AT THIS TIME! I emphasize that because the programs are much too flexible to completely digest within a week or so.

Anyone using extensive listings, such as mailing lists with keys, membership lists for organizations, subscription lists for publications, etc., should find it worthwhile to obtain and study this set of programs. It is already becoming a valuable addition to our file of software.

The programs are f-a-s-t! In a telephone conversation, Gary mentioned that he runs his terminal at 9,600 baud. That gave me the idea of trying out the programs at various baud rates, since the SWTPC terminal is software baud rate settable. They ran flawlessly from 50 baud to 38,400 baud. I could find no indication that the programs were slowing output at the highest rates.

Comments to prospective users: beginner's should expect to sweat a while before making the programs run. Moderately skilled to skilled programmers should expect to spent a few minutes configuring the system and studying the supplied samples. I would rate this AAA material for anyone with moderate or better skills. It is serious materiel, not for game players. It is one of the better software programs we have received since we started computing. (And we have some goodies!)

ED'S NOTE: Now how about a 6809 version Gary.

Brian F. Bailey WB4MMP
3701 S.W. 4th St.
Plantation, FLA 33317

PRIME NUMBER GENERATOR
3/15/99 Brian F. Bailey

4-4 THE WORLD PAGE

15

```

37 0095 35 36      PLS 0x11      Get product and restore multiplier and multiplicand
38
39      ! NOTE: The upper half of the 32 bit product is not
40      ! used since the upper limit is below 45-536.
41
42 0001 1003 36      OPD 0x11      Check product against upper bound
43 0004 22 00      BND 0x11      Branch if higher
44 0006 44      LSH 0x00      Divide MSB of product by two
45 0008 56      RSD 0x00      Divide LSB of product by two using carry (if any) from MSB
46 0010 60 00      RTZED 0x00      Decrement flag for this product
47 0012 27 00      BEB 0x00      Note zero if it is not decremented all the way to zero
48 0014 30 02      LEAD 0x00      Get next X value
49 0016 39 00      RPS 0x00      Try next value
50
51 0018 76 00 0x4      ORS 0x00      Print ORS
52
53 0020 35 36      DIVERSE PLS 0x11      Restore multiplier and multiplicand
54
55 0025 34 24      HEETS PHS 0x00      Set 1 on stack for comparison
56 0027 46 00      OPD 0x00      Compare X to 1 and restore stack
57 0029 50 00      BNE 0x00      Continue calculations if not equal
58 0031 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
59 0033 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
60 0035 1000 0000      LPT 0x00      Initialize prime counter
61 0037 00 00      LBD 0x00      Check high limit
62 0039 00 00      OPD 0x00      Check against lower limit
63 0041 25 26      BLO 0x00      End program if no primes
64 0043 00 00      LBD 0x00      Get first prime pointer value
65 0045 34 00      OUTLP PHS 0x00      Save prime pointer
66 0047 00 00      LSH 0x00      Divide MSB by two
67 0049 56 00      RSD 0x00      Divide LSB by two using carry (if any) from MSB
68 0051 00 00      BNE 0x00      Check prime flag for this pointer
69 0053 00 00      BSR 0x00      Branch if not prime
70 0055 30 21      LEAT 0x00      Increment prime counter by one
71 0057 00 00      LEAD 0x00      Point to value on stack
72 0059 00 00      CLRD 0x00      Clear leading zero flag
73 0061 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print decimal number
74 0063 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
75 0065 00 00      DIVERSE PLS 0x00      Restore original pointer
76 0067 1003 0002      OPD 0x00      Is it the only even prime?
77 0069 26 00      BNE 0x00      Branch if not
78 0071 00 00      SUBD 0x00      Adjust register for next increment and
79 0073 00 00      BNE 0x00      Decrement by two
80 0075 00 00      BNE 0x00      Stop on rollover
81 0077 00 00      RLS 0x00      Repeat until done
82 0079 00 00      LEAD 0x00      Point to message
83 0081 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print it
84 0083 34 20      PHS 0x00      Save prime counter on stack
85 0085 00 00      LEAD 0x00      Point to it
86 0087 00 00      CLRD 0x00      Clear leading zero flag
87 0089 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print decimal number
88 0091 35 20      PLS 0x00      Restore stack pointer value
89
90 0093 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
91 0095 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
92 0097 00 00      LBD 0x00      Repeat
93 0099 00 00      RTZED 0x00      Decrement flag for this product
94 0101 27 00      BEB 0x00      Note zero if it is not decremented all the way to zero
95 0103 30 02      LEAD 0x00      Get next X value
96 0105 39 00      RPS 0x00      Try next value
97
98 0107 76 00 0x4      ORS 0x00      Print ORS
99
100 0109 35 36      DIVERSE PLS 0x11      Restore multiplier and multiplicand

```

```

101 0000 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
102 0002 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
103 0004 00 00      LBD 0x00      Repeat
104 0006 00 00      RTZED 0x00      Decrement flag for this product
105 0008 27 00      BEB 0x00      Note zero if it is not decremented all the way to zero
106 0010 30 02      LEAD 0x00      Get next X value
107 0012 39 00      RPS 0x00      Try next value
108
109 0014 76 00 0x4      ORS 0x00      Print ORS
110
111 0016 35 36      DIVERSE PLS 0x11      Restore multiplier and multiplicand
112
113 0021 34 24      HEETS PHS 0x00      Set 1 on stack for comparison
114 0023 46 00      OPD 0x00      Compare X to 1 and restore stack
115 0025 50 00      BNE 0x00      Continue calculations if not equal
116 0027 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
117 0029 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
118 0031 1000 0000      LPT 0x00      Initialize prime counter
119 0033 00 00      LBD 0x00      Check high limit
120 0035 00 00      OPD 0x00      Check against lower limit
121 0037 25 26      BLO 0x00      End program if no primes
122 0039 00 00      LBD 0x00      Get first prime pointer value
123 0041 34 00      OUTLP PHS 0x00      Save prime pointer
124 0043 00 00      LSH 0x00      Divide MSB by two
125 0045 56 00      RSD 0x00      Divide LSB by two using carry (if any) from MSB
126 0047 00 00      BNE 0x00      Check prime flag for this pointer
127 0049 00 00      BSR 0x00      Branch if not prime
128 0051 30 21      LEAT 0x00      Increment prime counter by one
129 0053 00 00      LEAD 0x00      Point to value on stack
130 0055 00 00      CLRD 0x00      Clear leading zero flag
131 0057 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print decimal number
132 0059 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
133 0061 00 00      DIVERSE PLS 0x00      Restore original pointer
134 0063 1003 0002      OPD 0x00      Is it the only even prime?
135 0065 26 00      BNE 0x00      Branch if not
136 0067 00 00      SUBD 0x00      Adjust register for next increment and
137 0069 00 00      BNE 0x00      Decrement by two
138 0071 00 00      BNE 0x00      Stop on rollover
139 0073 00 00      RLS 0x00      Repeat until done
140 0075 00 00      LEAD 0x00      Point to message
141 0077 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print it
142 0079 34 20      PHS 0x00      Save prime counter on stack
143 0081 00 00      LEAD 0x00      Point to it
144 0083 00 00      CLRD 0x00      Clear leading zero flag
145 0085 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print decimal number
146 0087 35 20      PLS 0x00      Restore stack pointer value
147
148 0089 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
149 0091 00 00      BSR 0x00      Print ORS
150 0093 00 00      LBD 0x00      Repeat
151 0095 00 00      RTZED 0x00      Decrement flag for this product
152 0097 27 00      BEB 0x00      Note zero if it is not decremented all the way to zero
153 0099 30 02      LEAD 0x00      Get next X value
154 0101 39 00      RPS 0x00      Try next value
155
156 0103 76 00 0x4      ORS 0x00      Print ORS
157
158 0105 35 36      DIVERSE PLS 0x11      Restore multiplier and multiplicand

```

SYMBOL TABLE

```

CLRD 0x00      CLRD 0x00      CLRD 0x00      CLRD 0x00      CLRD 0x00      CLRD 0x00
HEETS 0x00      HEETS 0x00      HEETS 0x00      HEETS 0x00      HEETS 0x00      HEETS 0x00
RTZED 0x00      RTZED 0x00      RTZED 0x00      RTZED 0x00      RTZED 0x00      RTZED 0x00
LEAD 0x00      LEAD 0x00      LEAD 0x00      LEAD 0x00      LEAD 0x00      LEAD 0x00
PWS 0x00      PWS 0x00      PWS 0x00      PWS 0x00      PWS 0x00      PWS 0x00

```

6809 JPC TC-3

TC-3 w/6809
by
Keith Alexander

Recently, a friend of mine bought a SWTPC 69/K computer, and like most of us started, he is limited to audio cassette tapes ("sloppy disks") for mass storage. We figured he could use my now-unused (since I now have a dual 5" disk system) tape hardware, a Southwest Tech. AC-30 or the JPC Products TC-3 tape interface (see ads

in Micro Journal). This latter device had been the pinnacle of my tape storage when I got my disks. It had collected dust ever since then, though. For still-unknown reasons, we never got the AC-30 to work in his system, so we concentrated on the TC-3.

Now, let me tell you about this product. The interface, which resides on the 30-pin "peripheral" bus of the SWTPC chassis (which motherboard doesn't matter) comes not only with all parts, connectors, and a standard-sized (3.5" x 5.25"), solder-masked circuit board, but a comprehensive manual. The manual, which is beautifully written, gives circuit diagrams and commented assembly listings of all software to load and write both Kansas-City format (300 bits-per-second, or "baud") and "High Speed" format tapes, which may optionally be at 2400 or 4800 baud, depending on one or two "constant" values in the program. They also provide guidelines (names and model numbers) of several tape decks that have proven their suitability for the high-speed formats. Your \$19.95 cheapie won't always do the trick. Mike and I have been using the Radio Shack SCT-12 (about \$80), which finds other uses in the home audio system.

Then it hit me. I'd bought my TC-3 from JPC back in the Dark Ages (1978), for my (then) 6800. All the software was for 6800. I have dual processor capability built into my system, but Mike's is strictly 6809 (w/SBUG). No big problem really. Just assemble it with TSC's 6809 Macro Assembler and the 6800 mnemonics will be assembled into 6809 code. Fine. This produced a 6809 program that I could load into memory off my disk, but which Mike would have to MANUALLY KEY IN WITH S-BUG'S MEMORY EXAMINE/CHANGE FUNCTION whenever he wanted to load a program into his computer. About 300 bytes. Now, I can tell you stories about when I used to routinely 'key-in' 2K and 3K 'object' listings, but now I cringe at the thought. No fun at all. Solution? Phase 2--put all the programs in ROM! Our 6809 cpu boards (SWTPC) can hold three 2716 EPROM memories (2K x 8 bit), besides SBUG. It doesn't make sense to put programs like this into a ROM in a 6809 system,

and not make them POSITION-INDEPENDENT. This enables them to be used not only in ANY of the three available PROM sockets, but anywhere in RAM, if you so desire. This was Phase 3.

Now, the fun begins. Since this was more or less a rush project, I didn't re-write the original JPC software. At first, I merely changed the necessary instructions to lend position independence (such as LEAX MSG,PCR instead of LDX #MSG). Like the original software, I still used a designated area of RAM for variable storage, some of which had to be PRESET (with address ranges) before running three of the four programs. The next revision took an idea proposed by Mr. Al Moreira of England (see 7-80 Micro Journal, p.31)-- all local variables and temporary storage is allocated in the AREA POINTED TO BY THE STACK REGISTERS, US & SP. The stack is bumped down upon program entry, and restored when exited. The final revision makes the programs "friendlier", by prompting the user for the start and end addresses of the ranges to be loaded or dumped. This was mostly a matter of using the IN2ADR routine in SBUG, and adding some range-checking.

In summary, the following four programs (KC Loader & Writer, and High-Speed Loader & Writer) are:

ROM-ABLE (use no RAM outside of stack)
POSITION-INDEPENDENT
PROMPTING (no need to preset anything)
USE SOME SBUG ROUTINES
PRESUME A 1 MHZ. SYSTEM CLOCK

One other thing. This little project taught me all about the new I/O port addressing scheme used on SwTPc's newer motherboards. My original 6800 software and motherboard used 4-address ports, that is, I/O port #2 is \$8008-800B. My klused motherboard (that uses 6800 or 6809 cpu boards and can address I/O at \$8000 or \$E000) still uses four locations per port, while Mike's newer (standard) board uses SIXTEEN memory locations for each I/O slot. If we both use I/O port #0, our software could be identical, but after port 0, our port addresses are all different. The 6821 on the TC-3 board occupies the LOWEST FOUR (at

least) addresses on whatever I/O slot you use. The point is that you may have to adjust the port address references to suit your particular system, depending on which slot you put the TC-3 on, and what kind of addressing scheme your I/O bus has.

As I pointed out, the programs do use routines in SBUG, mostly for printing strings and getting the required input from the user. These restraints shouldn't prove too formidable for someone using a different monitor, though. Just a matter of plugging in addresses, I would think.

The observant user will notice I retained some of the 6800 mnemonics from the original software, and changed others. In the KC Loader, for instance, note that I retained 'TAB' instead of replacing it with the 6809's equivalent TFR A,B. However, note also that the TSC 6809 Macro Assembler also translated TAB to the equivalent SEQUENCE TFR A,B, TST A (IF89, 4D), which is nice.

It should be pointed out that the 300-baud Kansas City Standard was only meant as a standard for EXCHANGE of software BETWEEN machines, not necessarily for MASS STORAGE on ONE machine. The more enterprising bit-twiddler with a 6809 tape system will find this hardware/software system valuable not only for the sake of being able to dump and load tapes in two different formats, but for such bigger programs as BASIC interpreters, compilers, Editors and Assemblers (that are themselves tape-interactive) with a little horsing around and careful patching, you could speed THEIR 'save' and 'load' functions up possibly eightfold or more, providing you can find the original SAVE and LOAD entry points-- not always so easy.

MMI 48L2488.ASP
TTL 2400 Baud TC-3 LOADER
STTL 10 6809 P.I.C.

- October 15, 1980
- (rev. 2-8-81)
- (rev. 3-12-81)
- High speed (to 4000 baud) Tape LOAD Utility for JPC
- Products, Inc. TC-3 Audio Cassette Interface
- Written to reside in PROM and use the STACK AREA for UNABLE
- STORACE. This code is absolutely position-independent.

OPT .PIC

```

* I/O PORT ADDRESSES FOR TC-3 (ALTER TO SUIT)
0000 PTRA EQU 0000 PIA DATA REG. ADDR.
0001 CTLA EQU 0001 PIA CONTROL REG. ADDR.

* EXTERNAL EQUATES (DEBUG MONITOR)
FB14 BVE EQU 0014 MONITOR RE-ENTRY POINT (ALTER TO SUIT)
F0FE PSTRG EQU 00FE PRINT STRING POINTED AT BY XR 'TIL EOT (04)
FD20 INCHOR EQU 0020 GET TWO ADDRS. FROM USER (<10 VR NR)

```

```

* ASCII EQUATES
0004 LF EQU 0A
0005 CR EQU 0D
0006 DOT EQU 2E
0007 BEL EQU 7

```

```

* STACK AREA VARIABLE STORAGE
* Values equal offsets from user stack (US)
0000 MVAR EQU 0 Bit count (1 byte)
0001 SREF EQU 1 Signal reference state (1 byte)
0002 CSUM EQU 2 Eight-bit checksum
0003 BECA EQU 3 Beginning address (2 bytes)
0004 BORA EQU 4 Ending address
0005 SIZE EQU 5 NUMBER OF BYTES RESERVED FOR LOCAL VARIABLES

```

* NO ORG SPECIFIED; DEFAULTS TO 0000. CAN BE ORG'D ANYWHERE.

```

0000 20 01 BEGIN ORG UTL0
0002 04 UN FCB 4 (3-12-81)
0003 32 79 UTL0 LDRS -SIZE,5 Run 'SYS' stack down by req'd amount so
0005 1F 4 TFR S,U subroutines, won't interfere w/variable storage
0007 30 80 ORG LEXR MSG1,PCB
0008 00 F0FE JSR PSTRG
0009 00 F020 JSR INCHOR
0011 00F 42 BECA U BORA,U Input address range to VR, NR, no checking,
0014 AF 45 STR E10A,U next
0016 10AC 45 CRRV E10A,U null?
0017 25 04 BCS STARR Check for invalid range...
0018 32 67 LDRS SIZE,5 O.K. if 00, < End
0019 20 01 BRR BEGIN Else, fix up stack...
and restart.

*
001F 30 80 ORG SRRP LEXR MSG2,PCB Range OK, BEGIN LOAD HERE
0020 00 F0FE JSR PSTRG

* FROM HERE ON CODE IS VIRTUALLY THE SAME AS JPC PRODUCTS, INC.
* ORIGINAL, ONLY ADDRESSING MODES HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO LDR
* POSITION-INDEPENDENCE, IMPLEMENT STACK VARIABLE
* STORAGE, AND PROTECT THE IMPLEMENT.

0026 06 04 LDRH 04 Enable Pin Port A
0027 07 00 STAR CTLA
0028 06 FF UTL1 LDRH 00FF Wait for valid leader
0029 06 54 UTL2 BSR EDCZ Test for presence of leader
0030 20 FA BRR UTL1 If not leader, start over
0031 4A RECA U BORA,U otherwise decrement counter
0032 26 F9 BNE UTL2 Until time is up
0034 00 20 UTL3 BSR LDRB Get first byte
0036 01 03 BRR 0003 Must be 00F...
0038 26 FA BNE UTL3 ...or have looking

0039 6F 42 CLR CSUM,U Zero out checksum
003C 0E 43 LDRH BECA,U Set up memory pointer
003E 30 1F DCR DECI Adjust pointer

0040 30 01 UTL4 LDRH 01 Increment pointer
0042 00 1F LDRB 01 Get byte from lane
0044 07 04 STAR 04 Store in memory
0046 00 2 ADDR CSUM,U Add byte into checksum
0048 07 42 STAR CSUM,U ...and save it
0049 0C 5 BRR E10A,U Done yet?
004C 26 F2 BNE UTL4 If not, keep loading

004E 00 13 BSR LDRB Check byte from lane
0050 01 42 CRRV CSUM,U Compare with running checksum
0052 26 0E BNE LEXR If not same report load error

0054 30 00 ORG LBRH BELL,PCB Else, ring bell...
0055 00 F0FE JSR PSTRG ...to signal finish
0056 1F 34 TFR U,S Guarantee clean exit...
0058 32 67 LDRS SIZE,5 by fixing up SP...
0059 7E FB14 JRP BVE and exit back to monitor (or wherever)

0062 3F SRR SUI *** Software interrupt here on load error ***

```

* Loader Subroutine

```

*
0063 06 00 LDRH 00 Set bit count
0065 07 0A STR MVAR,U
0067 00 1A BSR EDCZ Presynchronize
0069 00 18 LDRB 00 Read next bit
006A 2A FC BPL LDRB Loop and wait for start bit
006C 00 14 BSR EDCZ Throw away second half of 1 bit
006E 0A C4 BEC MVAR,U Decrement bit count
0070 20 0F BPL LDRB Exit if all 0 bits done
0072 44 LSR LSR Shift the data right 1 bit
0074 00 00 BSR EDCZ Get next input bit
0076 2A 06 BPL LDRB If bit = 0 that's it...
0078 00 07 BSR EDCZ ...or it it's a 1, resynch
007A 0A 00 CRRV MVAR,U Push new bit into data word
007C 20 F1 BRR 0002 Push new bit into data word
007E 0A 00 LDRB 00 Just to equalize timing
0080 20 00 BRR 0002

0082 39 LDRH RTS Return to main address

0085 3A 02 EDGE PSMA Save data in A-register
0086 4F CLAR LDRB Clear count
0088 4C LDRB LDRB Increment count
0089 F6 0000 LDRB PTRA Test input port A
0090 C4 01 AND 01 Input same as reference? (last look)
0091 E1 41 BRR SREF,U If so, wait for change
0092 27 F6 BRR SREF,U else wait for reference

0093 00 10 SRR 0010 THIS CONSTANT DETERMINES BUILD BYTE
*** 010 FOR 20000... 009 FOR 40000... ***

0094 35 02 PBLA Restore A Register
0096 39 RTS Return

```

* STRINGS

```

0097 00 00 2A 20 MSG1 /DC LF,CR,*** High Speed TC-3 Tape Loader *** LF,LF,CR
0098 20 40 67 67
0099 20 50 57 70
00A0 65 65 64 20
00A1 54 43 20 22
00A2 20 54 61 70
00A3 65 20 4C 6F
00A4 61 64 65 72

```

2400 BUILD TC-3 LORDER
11 6009 P.I.C.

3-12-81 TSC 6009 ASMBL. PAGE 3

```

00B7 20 20 2A 0A MSG2 /DC LF,CR,LF,OK, Load in wordress...*.EOT
00B8 0A 00
00B9 52 61 66 67
00C1 65 20 74 6F
00C2 20 62 65 20
00C3 0C 6F 61 64
00C4 65 64 3F 20
00C5 0A
00C6 0A 00 0A 4F MSG2 /DC LF,CR,LF,OK, Load in wordress...*.EOT
00C7 0A 00
00C8 6F 01 64 20
00C9 69 64 20 70
00D2 72 6F 67 72
00D6 65 73 73 2E
00DA 2E 2E 04
00E1 0A
00E2 0A 00 0A 4F MSG2 /DC LF,CR,LF,OK, Load in wordress...*.EOT
00E3 0A 00
00E4 6F 01 64 20
00E5 69 64 20 70
00E6 72 6F 67 72
00E7 65 73 73 2E
00EA 2E 2E 04
00EB 07 00 00 04 BELL /DC BEL,0,0,EOT

EAD BEGIN

0 (ERROR(S) DETECTED

```

* October 20, 1980

* (Rev. 2-25-81)

* HMM KCLP/C.RM

* TTL 6009 KC LORDER FOR TC-3

* Kansas City Standard LORDER for JPC TC-3 PCB interface

* OPT PNG

* I/O PORT ADDRESSES FOR TC-3 (ALTER TO SUIT)

```

0000 PTRA EQU 0000 I/O Port #2 on 'raeolithic' (MP-8) motherboard
0001 CTLA EQU 0001

```

* EXTERNAL EQUATES (DEBUG MONITOR)

```

FB14 BVE EQU 0014 MONITOR RE-ENTRY POINT
F0FE PSTRG EQU 00FE PRINT STRING POINTED AT BY XR 'TIL EOT (04)
FD20 INCH EQU 0020 GET TWO ADDRS. FROM USER (<10 VR NR)

```

* ASCII EQUATES

```

0004 LF EQU 0A
0005 CR EQU 0D
0006 DOT EQU 2E
0007 BEL EQU 7

```

* STACK AREA VARIABLE STORAGE

```

* Variables expressed as offsets from stack (US),
0000 MVAR EQU 0 Address pointer - MVAR (1 byte)
0001 SREF EQU 1 Address pointer - LSR (1 byte)
0002 CSUM EQU 2 Checksum (1 byte)
0003 BECA EQU 3 Reference state (1 byte)
0004 BORA EQU 4 Temporary MVAR (2 bytes)
0005 SIZE EQU 5 Bit count
0006 MVAR EQU 6 Temporary byte count (1 byte)
0007 SIZE EQU 7 NUMBER OF BYTES RESERVED ON STACK (US)

```

* NO ORG SPECIFIED; CAN BE ANYWHERE IN MEMORY

```

0000 20 01 BEGIN ORG LDRB
0002 05 UN FCB 5 (2-25-81)
0003 32 78 LDRS -SIZE,5 Set up variable std. area on stack
0005 1F 45 TFR S,U US MVAR+US unchanged from HERE ON (SP-SIZE)
0007 30 80 ORG LEXR MSG1,PCB
0008 00 F0FE JSR PSTRG
0009 00 F020 JSR INCH
0011 01 00 BRR 0001 Carried "RETURN" input?
0013 22 0A BPL LDRB
0015 32 60 LDRS SIZE,5
0017 20 0A BRR 0001
0019 30 00 BPL LEXR LEXR MSG2,PCB
0020 00 F0FE JSR PSTRG
0021 00 00 CLR CTLA Set up PIA
0022 06 02 LDRH 02 Set data direction
0023 06 0A STR PTRA
0024 06 01 BRR 01 Enable port
0025 00 00 BRR 0002

0026 00 71 LDRH 01 Read first character
0027 01 53 BRR 01 If not an 'S'...
0028 26 FA BNE LDRH Then continue search

0033 00 60 BSR MVAR Read second character
0034 01 39 CRRV MVAR If a '9' then...
0035 26 0E BNE LDRB

0039 30 00 BRR 0002
0040 00 F0FE JSR PSTRG Signal finished by
by ringing bell

0041 1F 34 YFR U,S Guarantee clean exit
0042 32 60 LDRS SIZE,5 stack-wise (SP)
0043 7E FB14 JRP BVE and return to SRR (or wherever)

0047 01 31 LDRB 01 If not a '1'...
0048 26 02 BNE LDRB ...then try again.
0049 06 42 CLR CSUM,U Clear checksum
0050 00 2A BSR 02 Read byte count in hex
0051 07 42 SRR 02 Adjust for address bytes and...
0052 07 42 STR BVE,U ...store

```

'68' Micro Journal

	CARD	CARD	UNIT	Test output port
2	DITD	#2		
A	ONE	CARD		If set...clear 1
K	TWO	SITU		If clear...set 1

MARK DATA

54

Personally, I liked the second adventure, "Black Sanctum" better than the first. I found it more challenging and it took longer to resolve and that is after having played "Calixto Island" first and, therefore, being a bit familiar with the tactics used in designing the puzzles. Perhaps being a Chaplain has a bearing on it, but the use of Medieval imagery and 'black magic' intrigued me and I thoroughly enjoyed it. My wife and I spent a pleasant afternoon

- **STRIINGS**

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• **EMERGENCY** **REVISOR**

'68' Micro Journal

wandering around in search of the 'evilforce' and learning how to destroy it. Quite a challenge.

I look forward to future productions from Mark Data Products. In a phone conversation with the author, he indicated that there were other games in the works some for adults, as these are, but also some for younger folk too.

There is, it seems to me, a need for some of the 'fun and games' aspects of hobby computers to be more available in our corner of the world. Mark Data Products has opened the door. I, for one, will look for many more hours of fun and challenge to walk through it (provided, of course, that I have found the key, or cleared the entrance, or).

These games are available for \$16.95 a piece from Mark Data Products, 23082 Barquilla, Mission Viejo, California, 92691. At present they come in FLEX 2.0 disk format, but would, I suspect, run equally well in any other 6800 system (except for the same "save" function, of course). They are single entities and come with adaptation notes provided by the author. They run in 16k systems plus the DOS. If you decide to buy one or both, good luck on your travels! You will need it!

UNDERSTANDING SUBROUTINES PART 2 — ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE SUBROUTINES AND PARAMETERS

John F. Wakerly
Micro Systems Engineering
257 Castro Street, Suite 2E3
Mountain View, CA 94041

Part 1 of this three-part series discussed procedures and parameters in Pascal. Part 2 shows how these high-level concepts relate to assembly language subroutines and parameter-passing conventions using examples in Motorola 6809 assembly language.

John Wakerly is an independent consultant and a consulting associate professor at Stanford University. This three-part tutorial on subroutines in Pascal and 6809 assembly language is adapted from his recently-published book, Microcomputer Architecture and Programming, copyright 1981, with permission of the publishers, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (The book is also available directly from the author at MSE Books; see advertisement elsewhere in this issue.)

JUGGLER

Recently we received a copy of the MICRO POWERS'S 'JUGGLER' game. It runs under TSC Extended BASIC® and works with the current SWTPC series of video terminals.

It is a game that requires a developing skill level and has been a hit with the office staff here. Fact is, they disabled the 'bell' code so that game playing was not quite so noticeable.

For the user who needs an occasional relief from heavy programming and who might want to entertain the kids (small and large) this is a nice package.

JUGGLER may be ordered from: MICRO POWER Systems and Software, 1418 Thorndale, Chicago, IL 60660. Telephone 312 989-8585.

SUBROUTINE CALLING METHODS

In order to execute subroutines, a processor must have a means for a program to save a return address when the subroutine is called, and a way for the subroutine to jump to the return address when the subroutine is finished. Theoretically, subroutine return addresses could be handled by ordinary instructions, as shown in Table 1 for the 6809. Here the programmer has set up a convention for subroutine calling programs to save a return address in two reserved bytes at the beginning of the subroutine. Note that this convention cannot be used if the subroutine is stored in read-only memory!

TABLE 1 How to call subroutines in the 6809 without using JSR and RTS. By convention, a subroutine return address is deposited in the first two bytes of the subroutine. The first executable instruction begins in the third byte of the subroutine.

MAIN	...		Main program.
	LDX	#RET1	Load X with the return address
	STX	SUBR	and store it in subroutine.
	JMP	SUBR+2	Jump to subroutine.
RET1	...		Return here when subroutine done.
	...		
	LDX	#RET2	Save return address again.
	STX	SUBR	
	JMP	SUBR+2	Jump to subroutine.
RET2	...		Return here when subroutine done.
	...		
	*		
SUBR	RMB	2	Reserve two bytes for return addr.
	STA	P1	First executable instruction.
	...		
	LDX	SUBR	Get return address from loc. SUBR.
	JMP	,X	Jump to address contained in X.

Because subroutines are used so often, all modern processors have special built-in instructions for calling subroutines and returning from them. A pushdown stack is the most appropriate data structure for saving subroutine return addresses, because it can store more than one return address when subroutines are nested. The number of levels of nesting is limited only by the size of the stack.

Most processors have a dedicated register (SP) that points into a stack of subroutine return addresses. The subroutine calling instructions (JSR or CALL) push return addresses onto the stack, and subroutine return instructions (RTS or RET) pop return addresses off the stack.

In the 6809, the JSR and RTS instructions provide for subroutine calls and returns in conjunction with the stack pointer register SP. Any program that uses subroutines is required to reserve a small area of memory for a push-down stack for return addresses. At the beginning of such a program SP must be initialized to point at this area using the LDS #addr instruction. As shown in Figure 1, SP points to the top item in the stack, or just past the stack area if the stack is empty. SP is decremented once before storing each byte on the stack, and incremented once after popping each byte. A return address occupies two bytes.

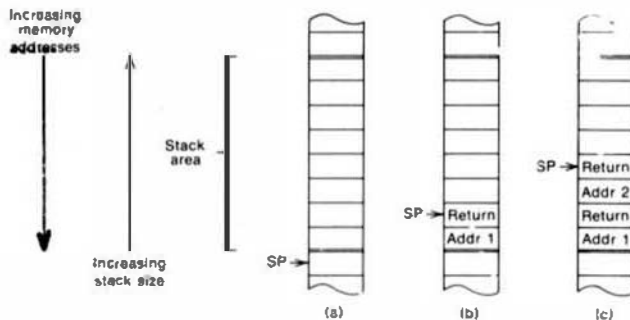


FIGURE 1 6809 return-address stack: (a) empty; (b) after one subroutine call; (c) after second (nested) subroutine call.

Table 2 outlines a Pascal program with two nested subroutines and the corresponding assembly language statements. The JSR addr instruction saves the address of the next instruction by pushing it onto the stack and then jumps to the instruction at location addr, the first instruction of the subroutine. At the end of the subroutine, RTS pops an address from the stack into PC, effecting a return to the original program sequence. Figure 2 shows the state of the stack after each instruction that affects it.

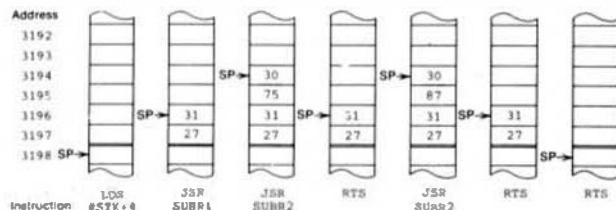


FIGURE 2 Stack contents after executing instructions in Table 2.

TABLE 2 A program with two nested subroutines. Both Pascal and corresponding 6809 assembly language statements are shown.

ADDR	CONTENT	LABEL	OPCODE	OPERAND	COMMENTS
3000 ...	ORG	\$3000			PROGRAM SubrExamples;
...	SUBR2	...			PROCEDURE Proc2;
...			BEGIN
...
3055 39	RTS				END;
3056 ...	SUBR1	...			PROCEDURE Proc1;
...			BEGIN
...
3072 BD 3000	JSR	SUBR2			Proc2; {Call Proc2}
3075 ...	RET2A
...
3084 BD 3000	JSR	SUBR2			Proc2; {Call Proc2}
3087 ...	RET2B	...			again}

```

*** ***
3092 39      RTS      END;

3093 BF 3198  AIN  LDS  #STK+4  BEGIN {Main program}
*** ***
3124 BD 3056      JSR  SUBR1      Proc1; {Call Proc1}
3127 ...      RET1  ...
*** ***
3191 7E 1000      JMP  $1000  END.
*** ***

3194 (0004) STK  RMB  4      {Reserve 4 bytes for
3198      END  AIN      two return addresses)

```

Processors that don't have a hardware stack pointer, such as the Texas Instruments 9900, have subroutine calling instructions that save the return address in a specified processor register. When subroutine calls are nested, it is up to the programmer to save the contents of this register in dedicated memory locations or in a stack.

SUBROUTINE PARAMETERS

In Part I we discussed several types of parameters used in Pascal procedures and functions. Table 3 shows the corresponding parameter types in assembly language subroutines.

TABLE 3 Parameters in Pascal and assembly language programs.

Pascal Parameter Type	Assembly Language Parameter Type
Value	Data value
Variable	Address of variable
Procedure or function name	Address of procedure or function

The parameter types specified in Pascal procedure and function definitions should be called *input parameters*, because they are passed from a calling program to a subroutine. However, subroutines can also pass results to a calling program. For example, a Pascal function returns one value to the calling program, while an assembly language subroutine can return many values. We'll call these values *output parameters*, *outputs*, or *results*.

To see the difference between variable parameters and value parameters, compare the swapping procedures in Table 4 and Table 5. In the first example, the main program passes the subroutine the addresses of the two variables; the subroutine accesses the variables by indirect addressing. In the second example, the main program passes copies of the variables to the subroutine, which the subroutine manipulates directly; the subroutine has no way to get at the original variables themselves.

TABLE 4 Swapping subroutine using variable parameters.

* Swap two 8-bit variables x and y whose addresses are passed in index registers X and Y.	
SWAP	LDA ,X Put x and y into A and B.
	IDB ,Y
	STA ,Y Save A and B into y and x.
	STB ,X
	RTS
* Main program -- swap the values of VARP and VARQ.	
MAIN	...
	LDX #VARP Load X with address of VARP.
	LDY #VARQ Load Y with address of VARQ.
	JSR SWAP Swap values of VARP and VARQ.
	...
VARP	RMB 1 Reserve storage for VARP and VARQ.
VARQ	RMB 1

TABLE 5 Swapping subroutine using value parameters.

* Swap two 8-bit values passed in regs A and B.			
SWAP	STA	TEMP	Save value of A.
	TFR	B,A	Transfer B to A.
	LDB	TEMP	Put saved value of A into B.
	RTS		
TEMP	RMB	1	Local variable.
* Main program -- swap copies of VARP and VARQ.			
MAIN	...		
	LDA	VARP	Load A with value of VARP.
	LOB	VARQ	Load B with value of VARQ.
	JSR	SWAP	Swaps copies of VARP and VARQ in A and B, originals are untouched.
* Reserve memory for VARP and VARQ.			
VARP	RMB	1	
VARQ	RMB	1	

The "Load Effective Address (LEA)" instruction found in many processors is very useful for passing variable parameters. This instruction loads an index register with the address of an operand, using a specified addressing mode. Suppose that a programmer wanted to swap VARP and SCORE[J], where SCORE[0..99] is an array of 100 bytes. Then the following main program statements in Table 4 would do the trick:

	LDX	#VARP	X now has address of VARP.
	LDY	J	Get index of array item J.
	LEAY	SCORE,Y	Y now has address of SCORE[J].
	JSR	SWAP	
	...		
J	RMB	2	Storage for array index.
SCORE	RMB	100	Storage for 100-byte array.

Here the LEAY instruction loads Y with the address of SCORE[J] as computed at run time—the sum of J and the base address of the array SCORE.

From these examples, it is apparent that all parameters in assembly language programs are really "values." With "variable" parameters, the "value" that is passed just happens to be the address of a variable. How parameters are classified doesn't make much difference, as long as the subroutine and calling program agree on how the parameters will be used.

PASSING PARAMETERS IN REGISTERS AND MEMORY LOCATIONS

The simplest way for a program to pass parameters to a subroutine is to place them in the processor's registers. Likewise, the subroutine can return results to the calling program in the same way. This technique was used in the subroutines in the previous section. Of course, the programmer must ensure that the calling program and the subroutine agree on which register contains each parameter. The register allocation for parameters is usually stated in a comment at the beginning of the subroutine, as in the foregoing examples.

If a processor does not have enough registers to hold all of the input or output parameters of a subroutine, then dedicated memory locations may be used instead. These memory locations are associated with the subroutine itself, not the calling program, so that each calling program places inputs and retrieves outputs in the same pre-arranged locations. For example, the 6809 DIVIDE subroutine in Table 6 expects the caller to place input parameters in locations DVND and DVSR, and it places outputs in locations QUOT and REM.

PARAMETER AREAS

It is also possible to associate a parameter area with the calling program instead of with the subroutine. In this case, the

TABLE 6 6809 DIVIDE subroutine that passes parameters in dedicated memory locations.

* SUBROUTINE DIVIDE			
* Divides a 16-bit unsigned number by an 8-bit unsigned number, yielding 8-bit quotient and remainder. The subroutine returns calls the operating system on overflow and on attempts to divide by zero.			
*			
DVND	RMB	2	Dividend.
DVSR	RMB	1	Divisor.
QUOT	RMB	1	Quotient.
REM	RMB	1	Remainder.
CNT	RMB	1	Local storage for counter.
*			
DIVIDE	LDA	#8	Initialize count.
	STA	CNT	
	LDA	DVND	Put dividend in A,B.
	LDB	DVND+1	
	CMPA	DVSR	Will quotient fit in 1 byte?
	BLO	DIVLUP	Branch if it will.
	SWI		Else report overflow to opsys.
DIVLUP	ASLB		Left shift A,B with LSB:=0.
	ROLA		A carry here from MSB means
	BCS	QUOT1	high DVND definitely > DVSR.
	CMPA	DVSR	Compare high DVND with DVSR.
	BLO	QUOTOK	Quotient bit = 0 if lower.
QUOT1	INCB		Else set quotient bit to 1.
	SUBA	DVSR	And update high DVND.
QUOTOK	DEC	CNT	Decrement iteration count.
	BGT	DIVLUP	Continue until done.
	STA	REM	Store remainder.
	STB	QUOT	Store quotient.
	RTS		Return.

calling program places parameters in the parameter area and passes the subroutine the base address of the parameter area. For example, Table 7 shows a new version of the DIVIDE subroutine in which the calling program uses register X to pass the base address of the parameter area. The subroutine may then use based addressing to access the parameters. In based addressing, an address register (e.g. X in the 6809) contains the base address of a data structure, while the instruction (e.g. LDB DVND+1,X) contains a constant offset (DVND+1=1) to a particular item in the data structure.

TABLE 7 6809 DIVIDE subroutine that uses a parameter area.

* Input and output parameters are passed in a 5-byte parameter area. The base address of the parameter area is passed to the subroutine in X. Parameter positions in the parameter area are defined below.			
*			
DVND	EQU	0	2-byte dividend.
DVSR	EQU	2	1-byte divisor.
QUOT	EQU	3	1-byte quotient.
REM	EQU	4	1-byte remainder.
*			
DIVIDE	LDA	#8	Initialize count.
	STA	CNT	
	LDA	DVND,X	Put dividend in A,B.
	LDB	DVND+1,X	
	CMPA	DVSR,X	Will quotient fit in 1 byte?
	BLO	DIVLUP	Branch if it will.
	SWI		Else report overflow to opsys.
DIVLUP	ASLB		Left shift A,B with LSB:=0.
	ROLA		A carry here from MSB means
	BCS	QUOT1	high DVND definitely > DVSR.
	CMPA	DVSR,X	Compare high DVND with DVSR.
	BLO	QUOTOK	Quotient bit = 0 if lower.
QUOT1	INCB		Else set quotient bit to 1.
	SUBA	DVSR,X	And update high DVND.
QUOTOK	DEC	CNT	Decrement iteration count.
	BGT	DIVLUP	Continue until done.
	STA	REM,X	Store remainder.
	STB	QUOT,X	Store quotient.
	RTS		Return.
CNT	RMB	1	Local storage for counter.

TABLE 8 Program that calls DIVIDE.

* Compute PDIVQ := P DIV Q; PMODQ := P MOD Q;		
* where all are 1-byte variables in memory.		
PDIVQ	LDR	#PARMS X points to parameter area.
	CLR	DVND,X Clear high-order dividend.
	LDA	P Store low-order dividend.
	STA	DVND+1,X
	LDA	Q Store divisor.
	STA	DVSR,X
	JSR	DIVIDE Do the division.
	LDA	QUOT,X Save the quotient.
	STA	PDIVQ
	LDA	REM,X Save the remainder.
	STA	PMODQ

P	RMB	1 Storage for P, Q, PDIVQ, PMODQ
Q	RMB	1 (all 1-byte variables).
PDIVQ	RMB	1
PMODQ	RMB	1

PARMS	RMB	5 Storage for parameter area.

Table 8 shows a program that calls this DIVIDE subroutine. Notice how the parameter area is associated with the calling program, not the DIVIDE subroutine. The calling program may use the same parameter area for other subroutines. If a main program calls many different subroutines, using a single parameter area saves memory compared with the alternative of allocating separate parameter variables for each subroutine. Of course, the parameter area must be big enough to hold the largest number of parameters used in any one subroutine.

Parameter areas are sometimes useful for subroutines that are stored in read-only memory (ROM). Since parameter values can't be stored into a ROM, it is more convenient to allocate storage for them with their calling programs in read/write memory (RWM).

One special form of parameter area is called an *in-line parameter area*. Here the parameters are stored in the calling program immediately following the subroutine calling instruction (JSR). The "return address" stored by JSR is really the address of the first parameter. Before returning, the subroutine must bump this return address value past the parameter area; presumably, the subroutine knows exactly how many memory bytes to skip over. In-line parameter areas should only be used if the actual parameters for any given subroutine call are always constant. If the actual parameters are variables, then the in-line parameter area must be modified each time the subroutine is called, impossible in ROM and undesirable even in RWM (some memory management systems enforce write protection on program areas).

STATIC AND DYNAMIC ALLOCATION

Storage allocation methods for subroutine parameters can be classified as static and dynamic. With *static allocation*, memory locations are reserved for the parameters of a particular subroutine or caller, and are unused at other times. Both versions of the DIVIDE subroutine above use static allocation. With *dynamic allocation*, parameters are stored in the designated area during subroutine execution, but the storage is available for other uses the rest of the time. Passing parameters in registers as in Tables 4 and 5 is the simplest form of dynamic allocation.

STACK-ORIENTED PARAMETER-PASSING CONVENTIONS

Placing parameters in a pushdown stack is a form of dynamic allocation used both by assembly language pro-

grammers and by compilers for several high-level languages, including Pascal and Forth. Parameters can generally use the same pushdown stack as return addresses, since most processors have instructions to push, pop, and access arbitrary data in the return-address stack.

Figure 3 shows a typical use of a return-address stack for passing parameters. The calling program reserves space on the stack for any output parameters and then pushes input parameters onto the stack. After the subroutine is called, the stack has the state shown in Figure 3(a). An address register FP is now used as a *stack frame pointer* (or *frame pointer*). The subroutine saves the old value of FP by pushing it onto the stack and then copies the value of SP into FP. The frame pointer provides a fixed reference for accessing parameters that does not change with SP as more items are pushed onto the stack. The region of the stack accessed during a subroutine's execution is called a *stack frame*.

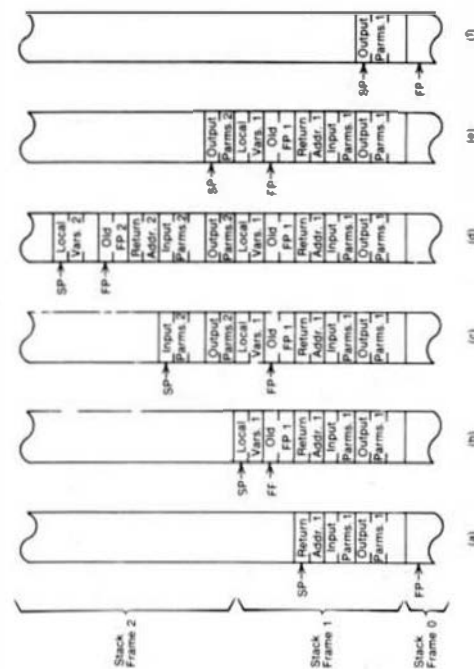


FIGURE 3 A pushdown stack with return address, parameters, and local variables: (a) just after calling SUBR1; (b) during execution of SUBR1; (c) just before a call to SUBR2; (d) during execution of SUBR2; (e) just after return from SUBR2; (f) just after return from SUBR1.

As shown in Figure 3(b), local variables can also be pushed onto the stack during a subroutine's execution and accessed by offsets from FP. If a second (nested) subroutine is called, parameters are again pushed onto the stack and a new stack frame is created, as shown in Figure 3(c,d). As each subroutine returns, it "cleans up" the stack by

- (1) Removing its local data by setting SP equal to FP.
- (2) Restoring the old value of FP by popping it from the stack.
- (3) Removing the input parameters from the stack and jumping to the return address, leaving only the output parameters on the stack.

TABLE 9 DIVIDE routine that passes parameters on a stack.

<p>* The offsets below define positions of parameters * and local variables in the stack relative to a * frame pointer (register X).</p>		
CNT	EQU	-1
OLDFP	EQU	0
RETADR	EQU	2
DVSR	EQU	4
DVND	EQU	5
REM	EQU	7
QUOT	EQU	8
<p>DIVIDE PSHS X Push old frame ptr onto stack. TFR S,X Copy SP to X for new frame ptr. LOA #0 Push initial count. PSHS A LDA DVND,X Put dividend in A,B. LDB DVND+1,X CMPA DVSR,X Will quotient fit in 1 byte? BLO DIVLUP Branch if it will. SWI Else report overflow to opsys. DIVLUP ASLB Left shift A,B with LSB=0. ROLA A carry here from MSB means BCS QUOT1 high DVND definitely > DVSR. CMPA DVSR,X Compare high DVND with DVSR. BLO QUOTOK Quotient bit = 0 if lower. QUOT1 INCB Else set quotient bit to 1. SUBA DVSR,X And update high DVND. QUOTOK DEC CNT,X Decrement iteration count. BGT DIVLUP Continue until done. STA REM,X Store remainder. STB QUOT,X Store quotient. TFR X,S Remove local variables. PULS X Restore frame pointer. PULS Y Get return address, save in Y. LEAS 3,S Remove input parms (SP := SP+3). JMP ,Y Return to addr contained in Y.</p>		

TABLE 10 Program that calls stack-oriented DIVIDE.

<p>* Compute PDIVQ := P DIV Q; PMODQ := P MOD Q; * where all are 1-byte variables in memory.</p>		
DIVPQ	LEAS	#-2,S
	LDA	P
	PSHS	A
	CLR	A
	PSHS	A
	LDA	Q
	PSHS	A
	JSR	DIVIDE
	PULS	A
	STA	PMODQ
	PULS	A
	STA	PDIVQ
<p>... P RMB 1 Storage for P, Q, PDIVQ, PMODQ Q RMB 1 (all 1-byte variables). PDIVQ RMB 1 PMODQ RMB 1</p>		

The stack-oriented subroutine calling convention is illustrated by the DIVIDE subroutine in Table 9. Register X is used as the frame pointer. A program that calls DIVIDE is shown in Table 10. The state of the stack before the DIVIDE subroutine is called is shown in Figure 4(a). The calling program reserves two bytes on the stack for REM and QUOT and then pushes DVND and DVSR (Figure 4(b)) and calls DIVIDE. Then DIVIDE pushes the old value of the frame pointer and CNT onto the stack as shown in Figure 4(c). Upon return, the stack is cleaned up, leaving only the output parameters REM and QUOT as shown in Figure 4(d).

You may have noticed that the use of X as a frame pointer in Table 9 is somewhat superfluous since SP doesn't change throughout the subroutine's execution; we could have used SP instead of X by adding 1 to all the offsets. However, in

a more general subroutine, intermediate results of expression evaluations and other computations might be temporarily pushed onto and popped from the stack, so that parameter offsets from SP would be continually changing. In this case, the fixed frame pointer (X) is much easier to use than SP.

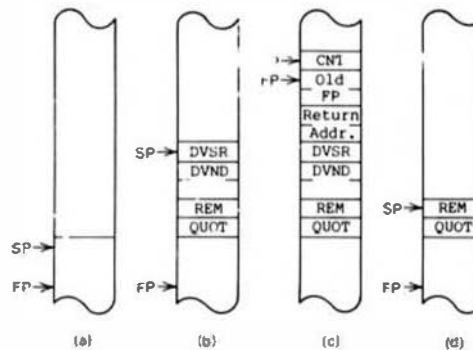


FIGURE 4 Stack contents during DIVPQ program: (a) at start; (b) just before calling DIVIDE; (c) after first four instructions of DIVIDE; (d) on return.

The DIVIDE subroutines in Tables 7 and 9 both access parameters in a "parameter area," using based addressing with offsets from X. The major difference is that the parameter area for Table 7 is allocated statically when the program is assembled, while the parameter area for Table 9 is created dynamically on the stack each time the subroutine is called. With static parameter areas we need one for each subroutine; with a stack we need only enough storage for the maximum number of parameters that are "active" when subroutines are nested. In a program with many subroutines the stack convention could yield significant memory savings.

Procedures and functions in Pascal pass parameters using a stack-oriented convention similar to the one described above. Local variables are also stored on the stack. This explains why the values of local variables are not preserved between successive invocations of the same procedure—the stack pointer may start at a different position on each invocation, so that the variables could actually be stored in different memory locations on different invocations.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE: QUEUE SUBROUTINES

To conclude this part, we give a set of 6809 subroutines that manipulate queues. These subroutines use a parameter area called a "queue descriptor table," and their documentation includes "prologues" that explain how the subroutines work. In keeping with the philosophy that programs should be self-documenting, we leave you to read Table 11.

TABLE 11 Queue manipulation subroutines for the 6809.

<p>* QUEUE MODULE * This module has three subroutines for manipulating * queues of 8-bit bytes. A queue is defined by a queue * descriptor table and a storage block as shown below.</p>		
<p>QUEUE STORAGE BLOCK</p>		
QDTBL	QHEAD (word)	(byte)
	QTAIL (word)	
	QSTRT (word)	o o o
	QEND (word)	(byte)


```

*
* Offsets in descriptor table:
*
QHEAD EQU 0
QTAIL EQU 2
QSTRT EQU 4
QEND EQU 6
*
* In this table, the first two words are constants,
* initialized at load time, that give the starting and
* ending addresses of the block of storage (buffer)
* reserved for the queue itself. The third and fourth
* words are reserved to store the queue head and tail
* (which are absolute memory addresses), and are
* manipulated by the subroutines.
*
* If a program defines several queues, it allocates a
* separate queue descriptor table and storage block for
* each one. For example, the statements below define
* a 5-byte queue Q1 and a 100-byte queue Q2:
*
*Q1BLK RMB 5      Storage block for Q1.
*Q1END EQU *-1    Last location in Q1 storage block.
*Q1DIT RMB 4      Q1 descriptor table: QHEAD, QTAIL.
*      FDB Q1BLK,Q1END      QSTRT, QEND.
*Q2BLK RMB 100    Storage block for Q2.
*Q2END EQU *-1    Last location in Q2 storage block.
*Q2DIT RMB 4      Q2 descriptor table: QHEAD, QTAIL.
*      FDB Q2BLK,Q2END      QSTRT, QEND.
*
* Subroutines are provided to initialize a queue (QINIT),
* enqueue a byte (QENQ), and dequeue a byte (QDEQ).
* Each subroutine must be passed the address of the
* descriptor table for the queue to be manipulated.
*
* SUBROUTINE QINIT -- Initialize a queue to be empty.
*
* INPUTS
*   #QDTBL -- The address of the queue descriptor table
*             for the queue to be initialized,
*             passed in register X.
* OUTPUTS, GLOBAL DATA, LOCAL DATA -- None
* FUNCTIONS
*   (1) Initialize the queue to empty by setting QHEAD
*       and QTAIL in QDTBL equal to the first address
*       in the queue buffer.
* REGISTERS AFFECTED -- CC
* TYPICAL CALLING SEQUENCE
*   LDX #Q1DIT
*   JSR QINIT
*
QINIT PSHS Y      Save Y so not affected.
      LDY QSTRT,X Put buffer starting addr into Y.
      STY QHEAD,X Store into QHEAD and QTAIL.
      STY QTAIL,X
      PULS Y      Restore Y.
      RTS        Done, return.
*
* SUBROUTINE QENQ -- Enqueue one byte into a queue.
*
* INPUTS
*   #QDTBL -- The address of the queue descriptor table
*             for the queue to be initialized,
*             passed in register X.
*   QDATA -- The byte to be enqueued, passed in reg A.
* OUTPUTS
*   QFULL -- 1 if the queue is already full, else 0;
*            passed in condition bit Z.
* GLOBAL DATA, LOCAL DATA -- None.
* FUNCTIONS
*   (1) If the queue described by QDTBL is full,
*       set QFULL to 1.
*   (2) If the queue described by QDTBL is not full,
*       enqueue QDATA and set QFULL to 0.
* REGISTERS AFFECTED -- CC
* TYPICAL CALLING SEQUENCE
*   LDX #Q1DIT      Enqueue byte ABYTE.
*   LDA ABYTE
*   JSR QENQ
*   BEQ OVFL        Branch if queue is full.

```

```

QENQ PSHS Y      Save Y so not affected.
      LDY QTAIL,X  Get queue tail.
      LEAY 1,Y     Bump to next free location.
      CMPY QEND,X  Wrap-around?
      BLS QENQ1
      LDY QSTRT,X  Reinitialize on wrap-around.
QENQ1 CMPY QHEAD,X Queue already full?
      BEQ QENQ2    Return with Z=1 if full.
      STA [QTAIL,X] Else store QDATA at old tail.
      STY QTAIL,X  Update tail.
      ANDCC #$FB   Set Z:=0 since not full.
QENQ2 PULS Y      Restore Y.
      RTS        Return.

* SUBROUTINE QDEQ -- Dequeue one byte from a queue.
*
* INPUTS
*   #QDTBL -- The address of the queue descriptor table
*             for the queue to be manipulated,
*             passed in register X.
* OUTPUTS
*   QEMPTY -- 1 if the queue is empty, else 0;
*            passed in condition bit Z.
*   QDATA -- The byte dequeued, passed in register A.
* GLOBAL DATA, LOCAL DATA -- None.
* FUNCTIONS
*   (1) If the queue described by QDTBL is empty,
*       set QEMPTY to 1.
*   (2) If the queue described by QDTBL is not empty,
*       dequeue QDATA and set QEMPTY to 0.
* REGISTERS AFFECTED -- A, CC
* TYPICAL CALLING SEQUENCE
*   LDX #Q1DIT      Dequeue a byte into ABYTE.
*   JSR QDEQ
*   BEQ UNDFL        Branch if queue is empty.
*   STA ABYTE
*
QDEQ PSHS Y      Save Y so not affected.
      LDY QHEAD,X  Get queue head.
      CMPY QTAIL,X Queue empty?
      BEQ QDEQ2    Return with Z=1 if empty.
      LDA ,Y+      Read QDATA byte from queue and
                  bump Y to next item in queue.
                  Wrap-around?
      CMPY QEND,X
      BLS QDEQ1
      LDY QSTRT,X  Reinitialize on wrap-around.
QDEQ1 STY QHEAD,X  Save new value of head.
      ANDCC #$FB   Set Z:=0 since not empty.
QDEQ2 PULS Y      Restore Y.
      RTS        Return.

```

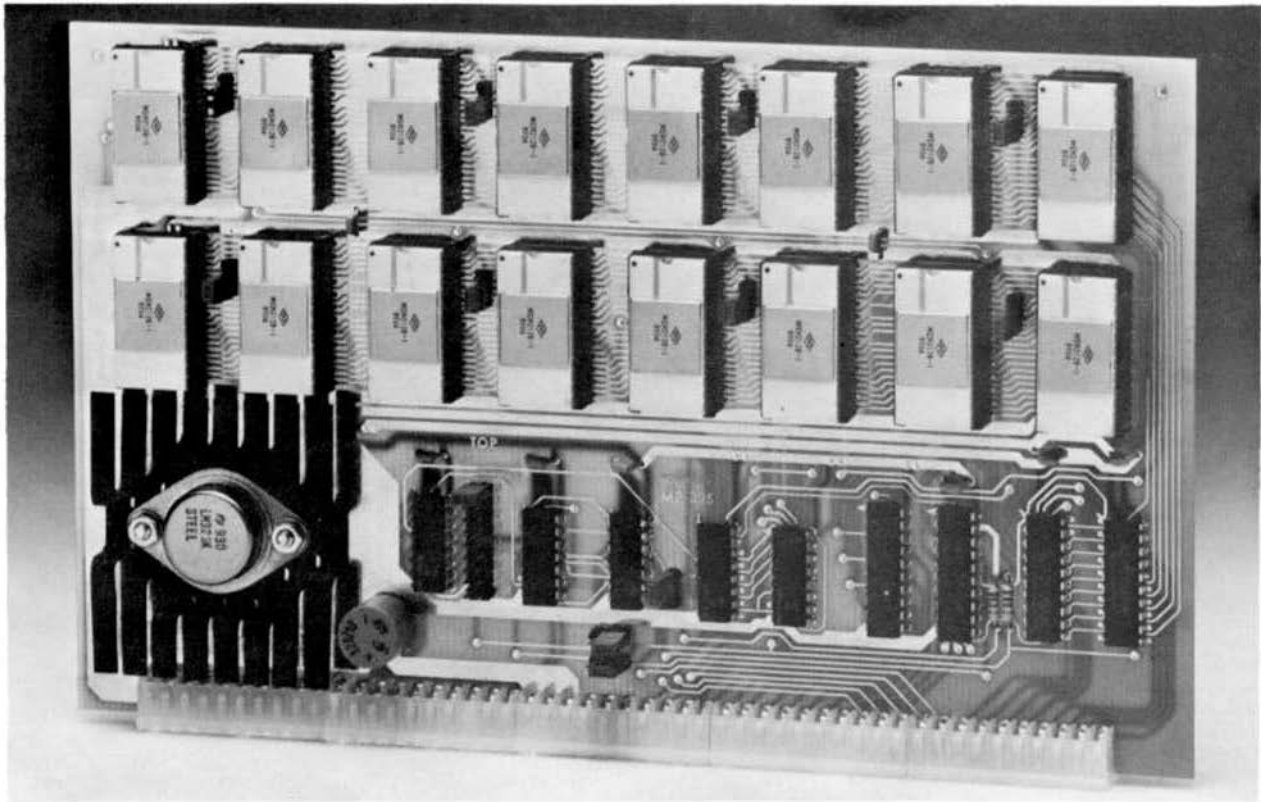
REFERENCES

A fascinating history of subroutines and related concepts can be found in Knuth's *Fundamental Algorithms* [Addison-Wesley, 1973 (second edition), pp. 225-227]. Instructions for calling subroutines were included in all of the early digital computers, although it was not until the 1960s that a pushdown stack was used to store return addresses (in the B 5000 [Lonergan and King, "Design of the B 5000 system," *Datamation*, Vol. 5, No. 7, May 1961, pp. 28-32; also in Bell and Newell's *Computer Structures*, McGraw-Hill, 1971]).

The architecture of the B 5000 supported parameter passing on a stack; Algol and other related high-level languages have popularized the use of the stack. More recently, special instructions have been provided in new computer architectures to facilitate parameter passing on a stack (RET n in the 8086 and LINK and UNLK in the 68000).

The correspondence between parameter-passing conventions and run-time storage allocation and operations in high-level languages is explained in *Compiler Construction for Digital Computers* by David Gries [Wiley, 1971].

In the third and final part of this series, we'll introduce the advanced concepts of recursion and coroutines, giving examples in both Pascal and assembly language.



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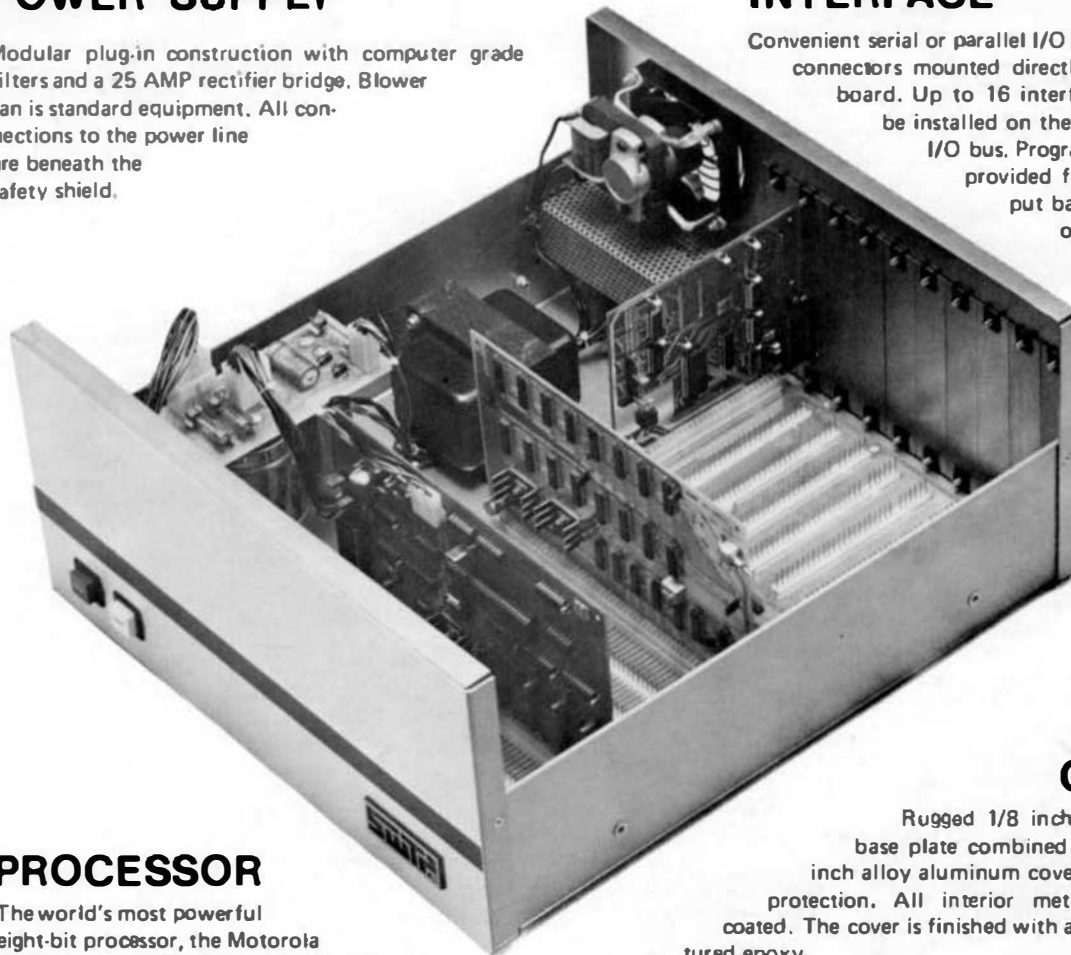
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BIT Bucket

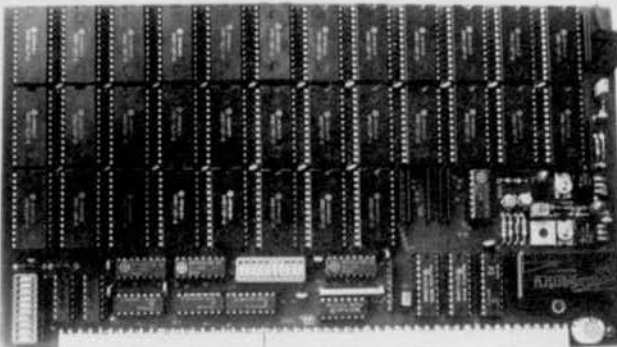
DON, JUST WANT TO ADVISE YOU THAT I RECEIVED A NEW VERSION OF 'ADVENTURE' TODAY THAT WORKS WITH FLEX 9. (6809 FLX 8" DISK). AS I MENTIONED IN MY PREVIOUS CARD, THE EARLIER VERSION TRIED TO LOAD AT \$8300 ABOVE \$7FFF. THE FIX HE USES INCLUDES ADVENTURE. SYS WHICH HAS A COMPANION LOADER PROGRAM WHICH IS HARDWARE INDEPENDENT REQUIRING ONLY MEMORY FROM 0-\$7FFF AND \$C000 TO \$DFFF (6809). IT IS WORKING FINE AND I AM SATISFIED THAT THEIR INTENT IS TO HAVE SATISFIED CUSTOMERS! HE ALSO OFFERED PERSONAL ASSISTANCE BY PHONE OR LETTER IN CASE OF FURTHER DIFFICULTY. THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST AND THE SERVICE YOU AND OUR MAGAZINE PROVIDES!

JOHN NIERSTE, 4205 W FARRAND, CLIO, MI 48420.

GIMIX INC. 1217 WEST 131st PLACE • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60609 • (312) 937-8810 • FAX 930-221-0255

Press Release

GIMIX INC. announces their new 64K BYTE CMOS STATIC RAM BOARD with battery back-up for the 6809/C bus. This board is fully compatible with any of the 6800/6809 DMA techniques. They are guaranteed for 2MHz operation with no wait states or clock stretching required. Ultra-low power CMOS RAM requires less than 1/2 AMP (250 Ma.) at 5V for a fully populated 64K BYTE board. It is non-volatile using an on-board nickel-cadmium battery. The board retains data even with system power removed. With the battery fully charged, the contents of the memory remains intact for a minimum of 21 days.



The GIMIX 64K BYTE STATIC RAM BOARD is ideally suited to a wide variety of applications. The battery back-up feature is useful where data loss due to power failure cannot be tolerated, or as a replacement for disk or tape storage where conditions such as environment prohibit their use. Since the entire board can be hardware write protected by a switch located at the top of the board, it can also be used to emulate PROM or ROM memory. This is especially useful during firmware development where frequent software changes must be made.

When the board is used in conjunction with a device such as the GIMIX MISSING CYCLE DETECTOR BOARD, critical data can be stored and system integrity maintained during either expected or unexpected power outages.

The GIMIX 64K BYTE STATIC MEMORY is available from stock and is priced at \$1088.64 and a 56K version, socketed for 64K is \$994.36

Lucidata

SOFTWARE LICENSE POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT

LUCIDATA has recently made two important changes to its software license policy. The changes have been introduced in consideration of the requirements of our users, to encourage the use of Pascal for writing application packages and implementing stand alone systems, and in recognition of the impracticability of enforcing compliance with an inflexible license policy.

- I Registered owners who have developed application software using LUCIDATA Pascal and wish to supply it to third parties, may include the LUCIDATA run-time system, with their application software, provided that the following conditions are met:
 - 1) The LUCIDATA copyright line, printed at run-time initialization, is not suppressed
 - 11) The LUCIDATA run-time system is only supplied bound with the application program as a command file, i.e. it is not usable by the third party for any other purpose or program. (The RESTART utility may be included as is).

- II The price of the LUCIDATA ROM package has been increased to include an OEM license fee. Registered owners of this product are free to include the run-time modules provided, in the firmware of their application systems, for sale to third parties.

Other than as stated above, resale of LUCIDATA software products remain governed by dealership or third party license agreements. Unauthorized copying and resale of copyright software products is considered to be simple theft.

LUCIDATA LTD.
P.O. Box 126
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ENGLAND

May 1981

Jeff Luton
ModestPlus, Inc.
217 Trinité Ave.
Beverly, CA. 90005

A \$50 TMS2516/TMS2512 EPROM PROGRAMMER

Now that the era of tri-voltage EPROMs (erasable Programmable Read Only Memories) has come into history, and the single voltage EPROMs are rapidly increasing in capacity and decreasing in price, the need arises for a convenient and economical means of programming the new devices on standard JHEX bus systems. This article and assembly code listing provide a convenient far programming - loading - erasing - verifying TMS2516/TMS2512 and 2532 erasable EPROM using a modified 74166 MP-R board (8-10 pin JHEX ?) and an additional 16-pin switch.

As can be seen from the modified MP-R schematic, the circuit modifications are straightforward and consist of the following steps:

1. change electrolytic capacitor C2 from 470 ufd. to 1 ufd.
2. Mount 5-pin 16-pin switch 1 label 2516-2532 switch position (the upper left corner of the MP-R board, previously occupied by the large C2 cap, is a good location for switch assembly)
3. cut land between IC3 pin 17 and resistor R7
4. cut land between IC3 pin 8 and IC8 pin 16
5. patch-wire IC3 pin 17 to open-end of resistor R7
6. patch-wire IC8 pin 16 to common single switch leg
7. patch-wire IC3 pin 17 to 2532 switch position
8. patch-wire IC3 pin 5 to 2516 switch position

Operation of the program listing code provides the user needed EPROM utility functions, including:

1. Program TMS2516 EPROM from RAM source data
2. Program TMS2512 EPROM from RAM source data
3. Verify TMS2516/TMS2512 data against RAM data
4. Read TMS2516/TMS2512 data into RAM source

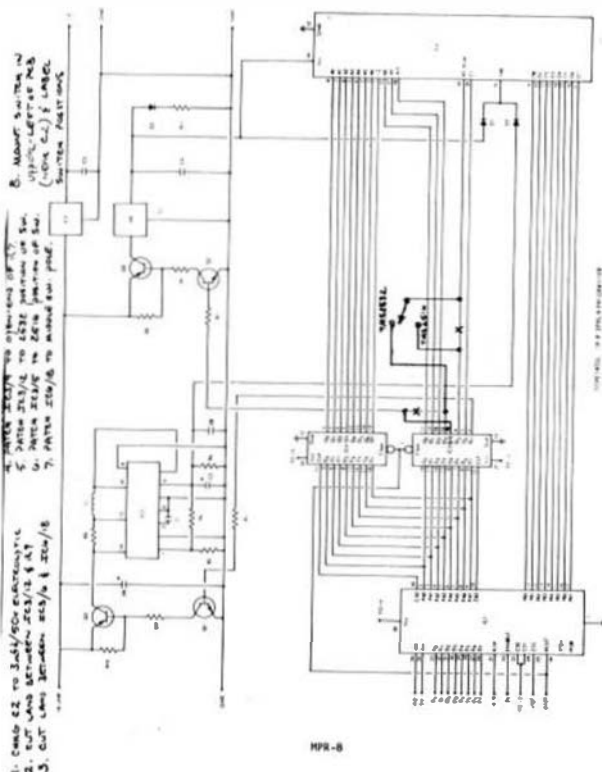
Each of the utility functions accepts an external RAM data of locations ranging from 0000-07FF (2K) for the TMS2516 and RAM locations 0000-0FFF (16K) for the TMS2512. It is not necessary to perform operations on the entire 7K or 16K RAM range; the selected EPROM may be partially read or written by specifying inclusive starting and ending addresses in response to the program prompting sequence. For example, a single EPROM location may be programmed by entering identical start and end addresses within the range of the selected EPROM (2K or 16K).

The 50 msec. EPROM programming pulse width is controlled by the RELAY routine's initial count value. A 0:000 value is used for a default 1.5 mSec. delay system. Counter values of 0:076 and 0:080 may be used for 1 mSec. and 2 mSec. delays, respectively.

RELOAD commands and facilities are used throughout the assembly code listing to enable reassembly on any of the AUX1 facility machines use of the same ROMs, relays, and the size and complexity of the code but only conversion to 6800 were difficult.

The utility program's data generation was performed on a Bank 1 Chisfast 6809 machine with frequent use of inherent status monitor (MON679) routines per the FOR statements at the beginning of the listing. All of the monitor routines except the INCH which can be easily revised have counterparts with similar names in the other popular monitors: MIBB4-Catbird-Madbird, etc.

Scratched RAM allocation at 0:000 is easily re-arranged for systems with RAM at 0:000 or 0:000; similarly the actual EPROM utility program itself may be re-assembled to reside at any convenient address - I have blown it into EPROM at 0:000 in my system. Reference to the Stack's article in the JHEX kilobaud magazine for information on modifying the MP-R to handle Intel 2732 erasable EPROMs.

[illegible]

**DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT**

Typical examples of use are schedules, customer data, checkbooks, addresses, inventory, records retention, market trends, mailing lists and most other application requiring the structuring of data. The DMS system, when properly applied, can displace the need for many specialized programs and, thus, reduce long term software costs.

Two DMS systems are available. DMS1 is an entry level system which supports file sizes up to 32K and DMS2/VX is a full scale business oriented system which permits file sizes up to 1000K. The basic functions of both systems are identical. Both DMS1 and DMS2/VX systems consist of the following programs:

The DEFINE program is the facility by which the user identifies the format and content of a database. Field name, format and size and groups of fields are identified to the system, and the file definition becomes a permanent part of the database. This enables later reference and titling of the data by name. The structure may be hierarchical, which reduces redundancy, and up to 25 field or group definitions are permitted. Alphanumeric, numeric, decimal, integer, coded and hexadecimal field types are supported. Since the definition is part of the file, and not part of an external data dictionary, the files may be manipulated by standard utility commands such as COPY, DELETE and RENAME.

The UPDATE program is a facility enabling the user to review, input, add, change and delete database information. These editing functions are executed via the system terminal on an interactive base. Single character commands facilitate execution of desired update functions with minimal effort.

The GENER program is the real power of the DMS system. This program accepts English-like instructions from the terminal and produces reports, displays on the terminal screen or generates new databases per user command. The GENER program may be applied in selection, inquiry, analysis and report applications eliminating the need for specific programs. The commands may be stored in a file, reducing the execution of complex functions to the entry of two words!

GENER functions available include match and range selection of input records on multiple fields, extraction of specified fields, lookup of data on other databases via multiple keys (without pre-defining record indexes), array generation and summation, sort by multiple fields and formatting of output on the terminal, printer or disk. GENER command files may set up using symbolic parameters, for which the user is prompted at execution time, enabling inquiry applications. GENER disk output may be read as input so that batch-like operations may be run for complex processing requirements.

The FORMAT Program enables the user to custom design output print forms using database information. The program employs a user supplied control file containing titles, text, graphics and/or field names which, in print form, resembles the desired output. This file is used as a "mask" to format the database fields specified. Field and mask data may appear anywhere on the Print & Page, and the mask may be of any size enabling use of the FORMAT program for mailing labels, contracts, bills, letters, preprinted forms and other applications.

Included with the DMS system is an OUTPUT program. This program enables the user to direct output from other programs to the printer, terminal screen or to disk. The program also supports the variable format capabilities of the Centronics 737 dot matrix printer.

At the heart of the DMS system is the resident DMS "nucleus" module. This program contains over 200 arithmetic, data manipulation, disk, printer and terminal I/O functions; many of which emulate instructions found in commercial main-frame computers. These functions afford maximum flexibility and standardization, and substantially reduce the size of programs running under DMS. This results in an increase of memory space available for user data and virtually bug-free programs.

DMS2/VH employs virtual memory techniques to increase the effective memory available for user data. This methodology utilizes an entire disk drive as a direct access "paging device" to swap in and out sections of memory as they are required. The result of this is the ability to direct access files in excess of 1 megabyte. The feature is invoked only as needed so that normal operations using small files may utilize both disk drives. A VMOEN program is included with the DMS2/VH system and is used to format the paging disk.

The DMS systems are fully compatible with our accounting system and other database oriented software, allowing specialized accounting and inventory reports and data manipulation per user requirements.

The DMS1 system sells for \$250.00 and the DMS2/VH system for \$450.00. Both systems require a license agreement and forms are available from WESTCHESTER Applied Business Systems. The 32 page user guide is also available for \$10.00, and is deductible from system purchase.

J. A. GLIDEWELL
GIMIX 8800/8800 Computers
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Dayton, Ohio 45422
(612) 435-3887

Mr. Don Williams
'68' Micro Journal
3018 Hamill Rd.
PO Box 849
Hixson, Tenn 37343

ANNOUNCEMENT

November 28, 1980

I am pleased to announce the opening of my business for sales and support of SS-50 Bus products and computer systems. I will be available to help you in any way I can, so contact me about your requirements or any questions you may have. I can meet your needs with the complete line of GIMIX products as well as for printers and 5 inch disc drives. Call or write to me at the address below.

J. J. Glidewell, 3623 Charlene Dr., Dayton, OH 45432

John Glidewell

When arriving in Chicago after a 23 hour flight from Australia, the last thing I wanted to do was go to a party being held at the Don's residence.

This party was loaded with all weird and wonderful people, which brought me closer to the 8800 Bus scene. This party was fine, coming together of Nations and International dealers, manufacturers, programmers and the press.

Friday the 4th of May the NEC show opened its doors. Exhibitors from the biggest IBM, down to Micro manufacturers showed their wares. GIMIX had a booth at which they had five different mainframes. On one, Ray Talbot demonstrated Porth on the 312/312 Graphics screen. Ken Kaplan of Microware had 809 running on 3 terminals, one of which was in colour. Sam Epstein had a mind boggling demo program running in colour.

'68' Micro Journal

I really liked using BASIC on and noticed his Pascal also running. Gary Allen, from Tallahassee Technologies had UCSD Pascal.

Wandering around the Motorola (M1) Radio Shack was showing off their latest TRS-80C colour computer which was rather impressive. Commodore also had their new dual processor micro which had a 8800 and a 6502.

Meanwhile back at the GIMIX booth, Richard Don and Bob Phillips were demonstrating some new goodies. I saw their new DMA disk controller which runs 5" or 8" disk drives, and also had a good look at their new 64K Static RAM memory card with battery back up. It uses all CMOS 200ns chips. A dieneater 5.5 MBVice drive was running on the GIMIX system. Tom Crowley of Programme International gave me lessons on how to use the PIE text editor. (This report was written using PIE). Heinrich Zacher of West Germany and Willi Vollmeyer of Switzerland compared notes on the different Pascal Systems available for the GIMIX 8800 systems. 7 different Pascals were available: UCSD from Tallgrass; Microware; TSC's; Deegasoftware; Lucidata; Canyon Microsystems Forth version; and Al Jost flew in from Nova Scotia to show for the first time the Dynasoft disk version.

Ron Anderson (Filen User Notes writer), Sharon Morrissey and Randy Lente from Ann Arbor visited the GIMIX booth. Bob Bunch of Boston, from New York, demonstrated Sylograph, a word processing editor. Jerry Appel from AAA Chicago Computer Center showed his Payroll Package.

Don and Joyce Williams made their presence known for most of the show. Charlie Williams, another member of the family, was left at the hotel to deal with important business matters concerning AB Micro Journal.

I spent a whole night listening to Lee Solomon cracking jokes and swapping stories with my dad, Paris Cockinos, and Richard Don. Lee Solomon started the micro industry with his article in Popular Electronics about the Altair. The SDA computer was also his brainchild and was named after him.

BMTPC was represented at NEC by Semiconductor Specialities which displayed the 82170, a new Word Processing terminal. IBM, Tano and Minis were also there among the other 8800 & 6800 exhibitors.

The 1981 NEC had an attendance of over 73,000, not including exhibitors.

Jacky Cockinos
Paris Radio and Electronics
P.O. Box 380, Darlinghurst 2010
Sydney, NSW, Australia



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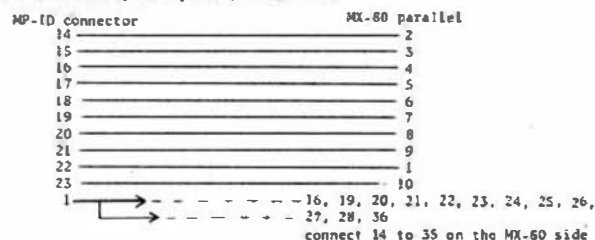
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Department of Biomedical Engineering & Computer Medicine
Lubbock Texas 79401 (806) 743-7787

April 28, 1981

Editor, '68' Micro Journal
2018 Hamill Rd.
P.O. Box 849
Hixson, Tennessee 37343

Dear Sirs:

I have interfaced an EPSON MX-80 printer to a SWTP 509 system using the MP-ID parallel port. Since this is a popular printer, I offer the following set up for your readers.



On the MX-80 side, data lines are 2 thru 9. Line 1 is the strobe input which is effectively generated by line 22 of the MP-ID. Line 14 on the MX-80 must be tied high by line 35 on the MX-80 or double spacing occurs. The other lines listed are tied to signal ground. All other lines can be ignored.

In the MX-80 are two sets of switches. They should be set as follows.

Switch #	SW2		SW1	
	ON	OFF	ON	OFF
8			X	
7				X
6			X	
5			X	
4		X	X	
3		X		X
2	X		X	
1	X		X	

Sincerely yours,

Blair A. Rowley, Ph.D., P.E., C.C.E.
Professor and Chairman

BAR/sm

Mr. Don Williams
'68' Micro Journal
3018 Hamill Rd.
Hixson, Tennessee 37343

15 May 1981

Dear Don,

I had never expected such a wide audience for my performance grumbles! But from the comments and articles on the April and May issues I believe some people didn't get the right point. Except for my 10 Ray Talbot with his TRS-80C, which are done on the same program, some machine speed and size as the ones I had done in my March article.

I want to address some of the criticisms voiced, in particular Dave Shirk's article. I never intended to criticize ISC or their software, but to compare the few alternatives FLEX users have today as far as programming languages are concerned. I also never intended to present any test method to compare prices. I could have been any program ready to see how fast a specific problem can be made to run on a 6800. My interest was to compare real software packages running the same algorithm (in a way, the more efficient the better because the more machine resources it will use and therefore show a reasonable picture of a heavily used system and get a little insight on the relative speed of each.

My assumptions were straight & simple. BASIC, FLEX, 365 and 1.0. At this side of the ocean there is not much choice if you need a high level language under FLEX, you either choose one of the TSC Basics or Lucidate PASCAL. Although from a purist technical point of view comparing integer and real arithmetic languages may seem strange, it is a very valid comparison from the practical point of view: none of us will be faced with the TSC Basics or Lucidate Pascal choice if we want to use a high level language under FLEX. If somebody thinks this is an unfair comparison, please supply a Basic that handles integer arithmetic on a 34K FLEX system and is faster than Lucidate Pascal on the same problem.

To compare FLEX and UNIFLEX software as Dave Shirk did (April issue, page 131) is unfair. UNIFLEX does not run on a 34K machine, it is not an option unless you have 128K and are prepared to pay twice the price of a 34K machine. For Tom Hanson pointed out (Mar issue, page 18) that BASIC09 gives a performance comparable to the UNIFLEX Basic and yet does not need more than 34K to run. The point here is that we smaller users are being left out for bigger machines and more expensive systems and I don't think it is fair. Another point is that I would appreciate if Dave Shirk had stated the clock speed of his system; if his assumptions are not made in a 1 MHz system then one should multiply the claims by the corresponding factor. Finally, although I admit that nice features like position independence and reentrancy are useful, they are not that relevant to us single users with not so big machines; but I really got bothered when my SWTPC 6800 takes 4 or 5 hours to chip across some big programs.

A final word: take a look at my Telstar's listings (May issue, page 27) for FORTH. With a 34K FLEX 1MHz single user machine (the same as my machine) and using exactly the same algorithm as I did, his FORTH program runs faster than UNIFLEX Pascal and just about as fast as the improved algorithm runs. Take into account that FORTH is an interpreted language while Pascal is a compiled language, and you see that compiled code isn't necessarily faster than interpreted code. Keep it up, guy - I think you scored a point here.

AL

Al Moreira
22 The Paddock
Chalfont St Peter
Bucks SL9 0JD
ENGLAND

FLEX and UNIFLEX are trade marks of FSC Inc. BASIC09 is a trademark of Microware.

May 13, 1981
406 40th Street
New Orleans, LA 70124

Don Williams
'68' Micro Journal
3018 Hamill Road
P.O. Box 644
Hixson, Tennessee 37343

Dear Don:

Some of your readers with TAND Corporation Outposts who have switched from TAND BASIC to Technical Systems Consultants BASIC undoubtedly miss the direct cursor positioning of TAND BASIC. The following TSC BASIC subroutine will print the string A\$ at column C, row R, where column 0 row 0 is the upper left hand corner of the CRT:

```
9000 PRINT CHR$(28)
9010 IF PEEK(65072) < 128 THEN 9010
9020 POKE 65074,C
9030 POKE 65075,R
9040 PRINT CHR$(28)
9050 PRINT A$
9060 RETURN
```

I hope that this subroutine solves a problem for some of your readers.

Sincerely,

James L. Dean
James L. Dean

Mr. Don Williams, Sr. - Publisher
'68' Micro Journal
P. O. Box 3018 Hamill Road
Hixson, Tennessee 37343

JOHN C. TARRIN
10000 SPRINGDALE CT
GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT 06030
(203) 685-0827

Dear Don:

Thanks for your letter of 3/30/81. I am looking forward to the May issue and the chance to see some of the contest software. I'll bet there are some real goodies there.

Don, I have SWTPC version 2.6 of FLEX 09 and it has the PSP.CHD in it. I have noted a discrepancy in the instructions. One places it indicated to put the MP-T card in I/O port 5 and in another it said I/O port 4. Needless to say I have tried both, but to no avail. Seems the first thing that happens when I try to spool is I get a message that there is insufficient memory for the printer driver. If I use the MP.CHD simply to see what is available, it indicates 512 bytes (enough). When I then try PSP.CHD, it will load the .OUT files into the queue, but also, no printing occurs. As suggested by the error sheet with the SP-09 CPU, I configured SBOX for no timer. I also tried it with timer=yes. I am baffled. I questioned the MP-T card, but it seems to work fine.

I have sold my two MPAT cards so there is no need for you to run the classified. Thanks anyway. I think my next project will be to upgrade to the GIMIX 6809 CPU. Do you run one of those? If so, how do you like it?

Seems there is a 6811(Z) users group here in the Bay Area. I just found them and the next meeting is 14 April. I plan to attend and maybe I can find a solution to my spooling problem.

I know you are busy, so won't take any more of your time. Can't tell you how much I enjoy the Journal. Take care and I'll contribute some more software soon.

Sincerely yours,

John C. Tarrin
John C. Tarrin, ESQC

HELP

DOES ANYONE HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF TRANSFERRING TAPE DATA TO SWTPC'S DMF-2 DISKETTES? TAPES ARE 9 TRACKS, 1600 BPI, UNLABELED WITH BLOCKING FACTORS OF 1 X 186 AND 1 X 286. CALL ME COLLECT AT 214-276-6196 IF YOU CAN TRANSFER THE DATA OR KNOW ANYONE WHO CAN. LARRY WOLFE, 519 STATE ST, CARLAND, TX 75040

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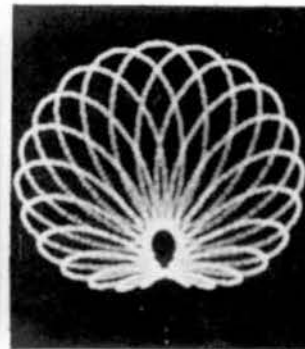
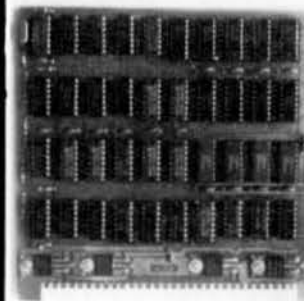
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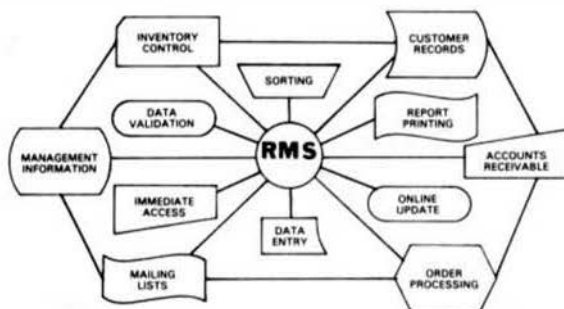
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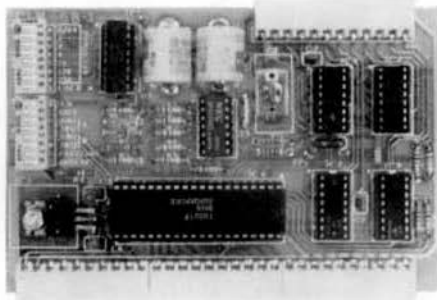
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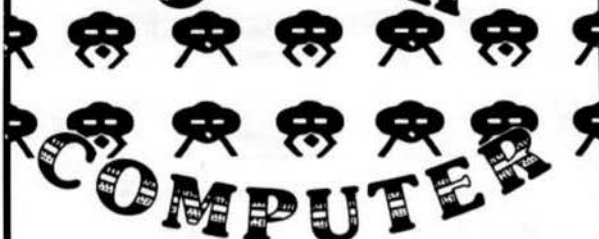
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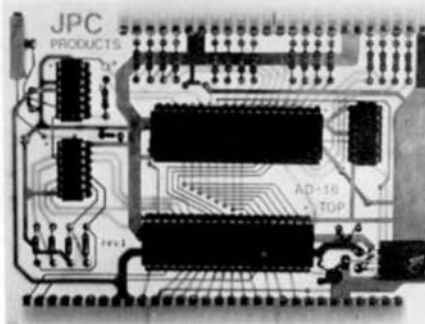
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MONITOR ROM: The same program as above, supplied in ROM. This allows BASIC to use the entire RAM space. And you don't need to re-load the monitor each time you use it. The ROM plugs into the Extended Basic ROM Socket or a modified ROMPACK.

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INSIDE THE COLOR COMPUTER: This package is a disassembler which runs on the color computer and enables you to generate your own source listing of the BASIC interpreter ROM. Also included is a documentation package which gives useful ROM entry points, complete memory map, I/O hardware details and more. Disassembler features include cross-referencing of variables and labels; output code which can be reassembled; output to an 80-column printer, small printer or screen; and a data table area specification which defaults to the table boundaries in the interpreter ROM. A 16K system is required for the use of this cassette.

80C Disassembler Price: \$49.95

ALSO AVAILABLE: 16K upgrade kit consisting of eight 4116s with instructions for installation. Price: \$40.00. (And if you're a *real* hardware hacker, call us and ask about 32K upgrade kits!)

6809 Assembly Language Programming, by Lance Levanthal, contains the most comprehensive reference material available for programming your Color Computer. Price: \$16.95

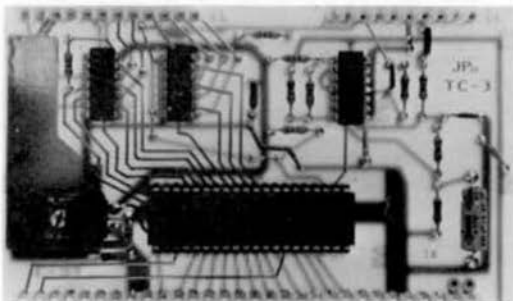
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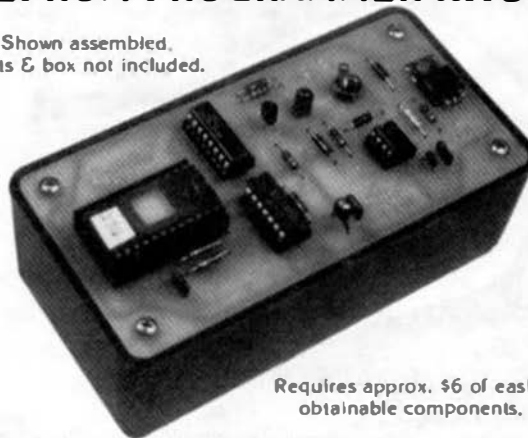
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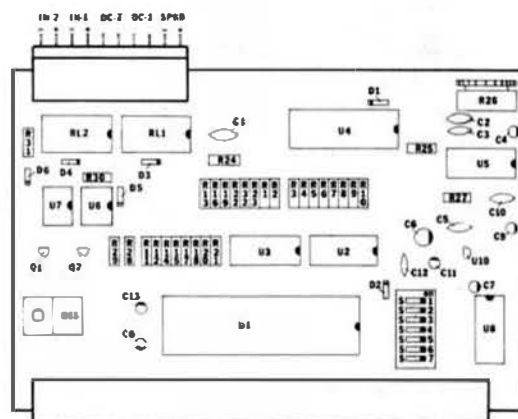
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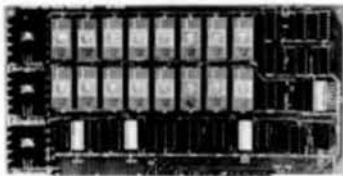
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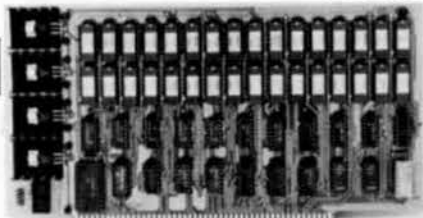
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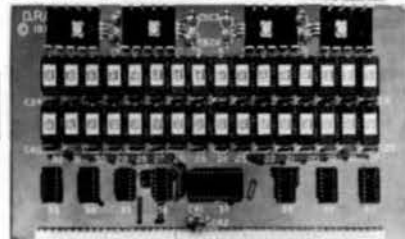
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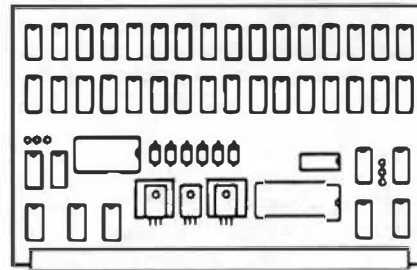
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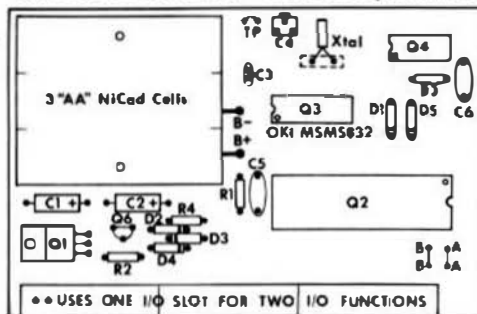
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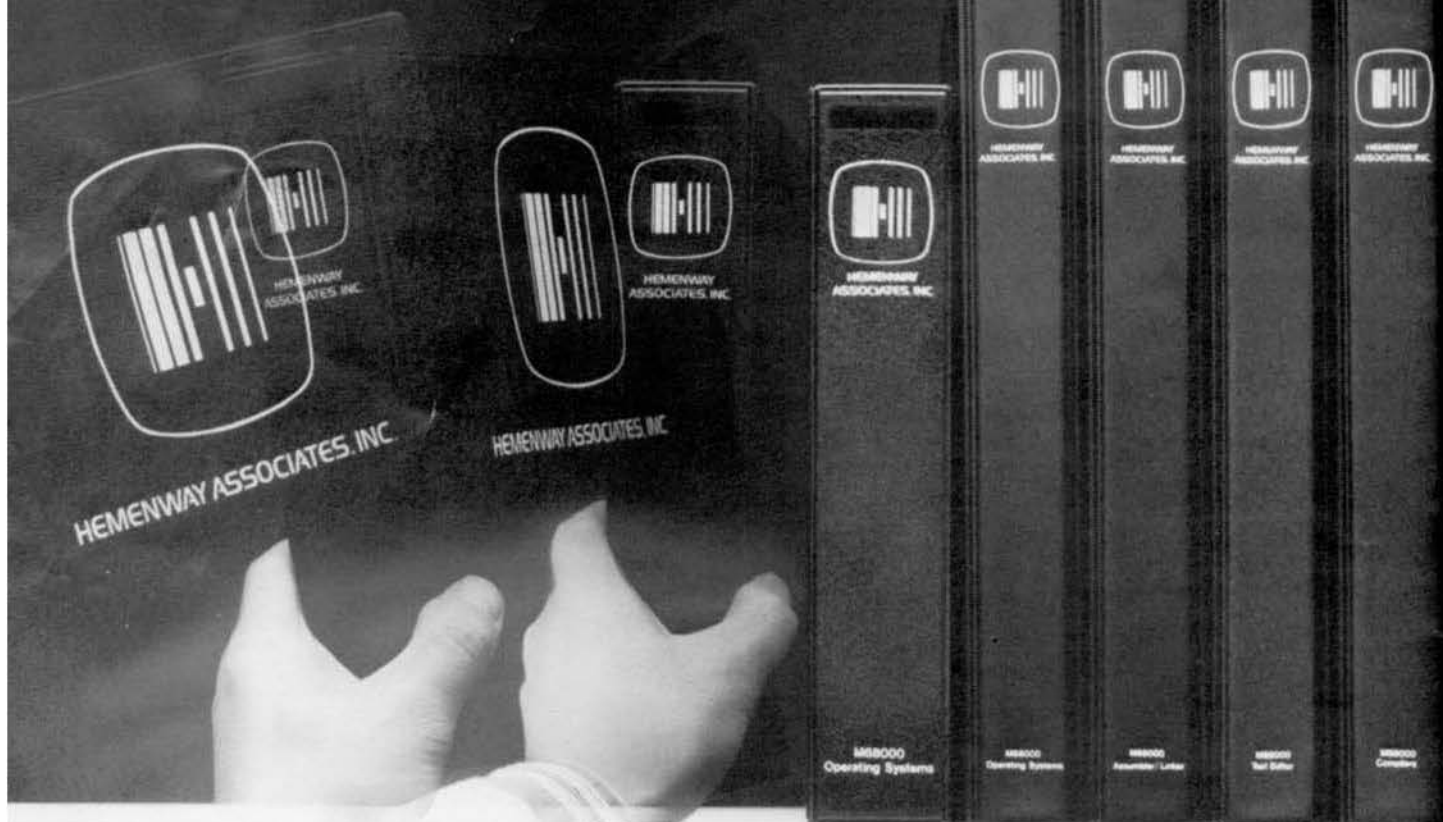
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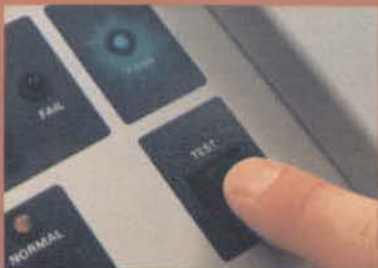
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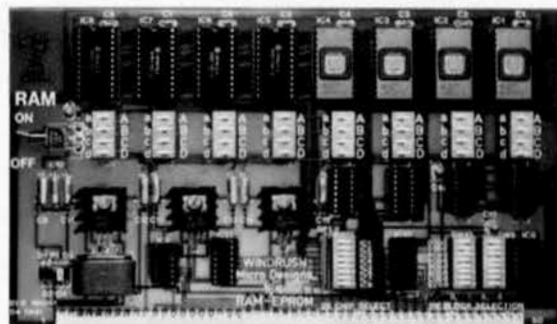
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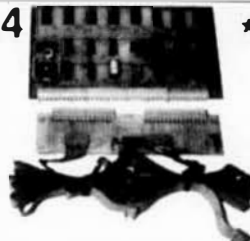
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64K BYTE CMOS STATIC RAM BOARD . . . with Battery Back-Up



Using the latest in memory technology, the GIMIX 64K BYTE CMOS STATIC RAM BOARD combines the best features of previous memory boards on one board.

FULLY STATIC MEMORY with its inherent low soft error rate and freedom from alpha-particle induced errors. No complicated refresh timing or clocks required for data retention. Fully compatible with any of the 6800/6809 DMA techniques.

HIGH SPEED 200ns. memorys for guaranteed operation at 2MHz. with no wait states or clock stretching required.

ULTRA-LOW POWER CMOS RAM requires less than 1/4 AMP (250 Ma.) at 8V. for a fully populated 64K BYTE board. Less power supply loading and heat generation for cool, efficient operation.

NON-VOLATILE using an on-board nickel-cadmium battery. The board retains data even with system power removed. With the battery fully charged, the contents of the memory remain intact for a minimum of 21 days.

HIGH DENSITY permits greater memory expansion to meet the needs of todays sophisticated, multi-user/multi-tasking operating systems.

ADDRESSABLE in two 32K sections that have their own decoding for both the regular and extended (SS-50C) address lines. Each section can be addressed to any 32K boundary in the address range (1M BYTE with extended addressing). The 32K sections are divided into four 8K blocks that can be individually enabled or disabled. Disabled sections do not occupy any address space.

RELIABLE like all GIMIX products, the 64K BYTE CMOS STATIC RAM is designed with reliability in mind. Series damping resistors, a fully gridded power and ground layout, and generous power supply decoupling, all contribute to reliability and data integrity. An unsafe voltage detect circuit inhibits writes to the board, when the 8V. supply falls below a preset level, to prevent loss of data during the transition between system and battery power.

The GIMIX 64K BYTE STATIC RAM BOARD is ideally suited to a wide variety of applications.

Its high density and ultra-low power consumption make it possible to greatly expand systems with a few available bus slots and limited power supply capabilities.

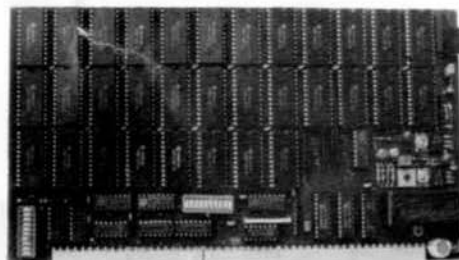
The battery back-up feature is useful where data loss due to power failure cannot be tolerated, or as a replacement for disk or tape storage where conditions such as environment prohibit their use. Since the entire board can be hardware write protected by a switch located at the top of the board, it can also be used to emulate PROM or ROM memory. This is especially useful during firmware development where frequent software changes must be made.

When the board is used in conjunction with a device such as the GIMIX MISSING CYCLE DETECTOR BOARD, which monitors the A.C. line and generates an interrupt when a power failure occurs, critical data can be stored and system integrity maintained during either expected or unexpected power outages.

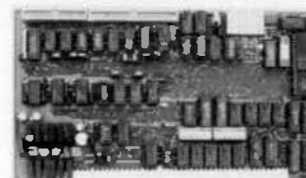
The GIMIX 64K BYTE STATIC MEMORY BOARD is available in 56K and 64K versions. Both version include all of the above features; gold bus connectors; and come fully assembled, burned in, and tested.

56K version **\$ 994.56**
(Socketed for 64K)

64K version **\$1088.64**



GIMIX KNOCKS OUT DISK PROBLEMS



GIMIX DMA DOUBLE DENSITY DISK CONTROLLER #68

The GIMIX DMA Direct Memory Access DISK CONTROLLER has the capabilities needed to realize the full potential of todays sophisticated multi-user/multi-tasking operating systems such as OS-9™ and UniFLEX™.

HIGH SPEED using bi-polar logic DMA circuitry for guaranteed operation at 2MHz. DMA transfers take place at full bus speed using 6809 cycle steal DMA. Once the required parameters are passed to the controller and DMA transfer is initiated the processor is free for other tasks. Interrupts can be generated to indicate the completion of the transfer, and 8" floppy disk drives, single and double density,

SINGLE AND DOUBLE DENSITY data storage on any combination of 5 1/4" and 8" floppy disk drives, single and double density, up to 4 drives total.

LOW ERROR RATES are insured by a phase lock data recovery circuit (data separation and adjustable write precompensation circuitry for drives that require precomp). Separate precomp adjustments are provided for 5 1/4" and 8" drives.

ADDRESSABLE to any 8 byte boundary in the address space (1M byte when extended address decoding is used). The board occupies only 8 bytes of address space.

EXTENDED ADDRESSING control using the SS-50C extended address lines. Control of the extended address lines allows the board to perform DMA transfers to and from any address in the 1M byte address space.

FULLY BUFFERED with separate 5 1/4" and 8" output buffers and schmidt trigger input buffers for the disk drive signals.

The DMA controller leaves the processor free to perform other tasks once the transfer is initiated, unless programmed I/O disk controllers which require full time use of the processor during data transfers to and from disk.

This is extremely important in a multi-user/multi-tasking environment as the processor can perform other tasks such as console I/O while a disk transfer is in progress.

68 fully assembled, burned in, and tested

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GIMIX DOUBLE DENSITY PIO DISK CONTROLLER #28

The GIMIX DOUBLE DENSITY PIO (PROGRAMMED I/O) DISK CONTROLLER is a versatile floppy disk interface for use in 6809 systems on the SS-50 or SS-50C bus. The board physically occupies one slot of the 30 pin I/O bus.

- Double the unformatted storage capacity of single density controllers
- Single and double density operation
- Phase lock data recovery circuit (data separation)
- Adjustable write precompensation (precomp)
- Controls up to four 5 1/4" drives
- Controls single and double headed drives
- Designed to meet the data hold-time requirements of the Western Digital 1771 floppy disk controller IC.

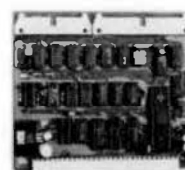
The GIMIX DOUBLE DENSITY PIO DISK CONTROLLER is ideal for systems that require greater data storage than can be provided by single density controllers without increasing the number or type of drives. In most cases existing 6809 systems can be upgraded by adding only the controller and the appropriate existing system software.

28 fully assembled, burned in and tested

\$348.28



GIMIX 5/8 DISK CONTROLLER BOARD #58



The GIMIX 5/8 DISK CONTROLLER is a versatile floppy disk interface for use with both 6809 and 6809 systems on the SS-50 or SS-50C bus. The board physically occupies one slot of the 30 pin I/O bus.

- Hardware and software addressable with existing disk controllers (SWTPC DC-1, DC-2 and DC-3)
- Controls up to four 5 1/4" drives in 6809 systems
- Controls any mix of 5 1/4" and 8" drives, up to four drives total, in 6809 systems
- Provides for double headed drives
- Synchronizes data separator for data reliability
- Designed to meet the data hold-time requirements of the 1771 floppy disk controller IC.

The GIMIX 5/8 DISK CONTROLLER is ideal for a variety of applications including the replacement of controllers in existing systems. As a replacement it can provide the same advantages of a disk controller, reduce related drive cabling, and in 6809 systems can enable the use of 8" drives. Double headed 5 1/4" and 8" controllers may require appropriate existing system software.

58 fully assembled, burned in, and tested

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NOTE: When ordering disk controllers please specify the make and model of the drives being used.

GIMIX 6809 FLEX™

6809 versions of Technical Systems International 6809 FLEX™ operating systems are available for all three G-U-I-S data processors. They fully support all the features of each controller and are software compatible with other versions of FLEX™. GIMIX FLEX™ includes a disk FORMAT program that allows the user to set the number of tracks to format, single or double sided disk, and where appropriate single or double density. GIMIX FLEX™ supports single and double density 5 1/4" and 8 1/4" 5 1/4" drives and about 50 TPI (80 track) drives to read, write, or format 48 TPI (35 or 40 track) disks.

GIMIX 6809 FLEX™ specify controller and type of drive:

5 1/4" or 8 1/4" 40 track (48 TPI), or 5 1/4" 80 track (90 TPI)

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Versions of MICROWARE'S OS-9™ are available for all three GIMIX disk controllers. Technical Systems Consultants UniFLEX™ will be available for the GIMIX DMA controller.

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